

Why aren't more women ousting the Sir Humphreys of Whitehall? **Page 17**



BOAT RACE FOCUS

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WIN A HOLIDAY

You could be heading for a break in Rome tonight **Competition details, page 15**

20P

THE TIMES

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Memo leaked on Major interview

BBC accused of yielding to ministers

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

LABOUR accused the BBC last night of giving in to government intimidation over an interview with John Major to be staged on *Panorama* on Monday night.

A leaked memorandum from the programme's deputy editor to other senior BBC executives shows how they were going to great lengths to prepare a defence against opposition accusations that Mr Major was getting preferential treatment three days before the Scottish elections.

Downing Street decided at the end of last week that Mr Major should do the interview as part of what appears to be a sustained propaganda offensive, including big speeches this week to the Conservative Central Council and the Britain in the World conference; a national newspaper interview and a high profile visit to America next week. But the BBC's internal memo recommends that the corporation should say that it had a long-standing request to Downing Street for an interview, which it had renewed three weeks ago. The memo discusses tactics to prevent other party leaders having an automatic right of reply.

The BBC last night confirmed the authenticity of the memorandum, which shows the programme's deep sensitivity to charges from other parties of lack of balance. Corporation sources there said the leak had caused massive embarrassment.

Mr Robinson's memo raises the question of how the programme should handle questions from other parties about giving prominence to Mr Major so close to the Scottish elections next Thursday and in the runup to the local elections in England and Wales in May.

He writes: "This is particularly important given that the interview is bound to be written up as forming part of a Number 10 strategy to promote Major in advance of both the elections and the Easter recess. It comes less than a week after high-profile speeches..."

He goes on: "My suggestion is that we say that we have had a bid in for the Prime Minister for some months which he has finally accepted: that this is an interesting time to interview him since it comes in advance of the beginning of the Maastricht 2 process, his visit to the United States and the imminent talks between the Government and Sinn Fein; and given the Government's continuing unpopularity and disarray."

He says the BBC will need an explanation for Tony Blair, Paddy Ashdown and Alex Salmond, the SNP leader, of why they were not being granted similar interviews. He goes on: "As for Blair, we can say that *Panorama* recently made a film with him in which he had a good deal of time to outline his views. We have no plans for a setpiece interview with him at present but may wish to interview him before the General Election.

"Ashdown is not so easy! Unless we intend to give him an interview on *Panorama*, we will have to refer to other strands — eg, he was on *On the Record* last week. The same problem applies to Alex Salmond."

The memo, written to Tim Gardam, head of weekly programmes, current affairs; Steve Hewlett, the *Panorama* editor; and David Jordan, the BBC political adviser, ends: "We will not publicise this until Monday, but need to get our line straight by then."

A Labour spokesman said last night: "We hope the interview, and the conditions which seem to have been agreed, is not the first sign that the intimidation campaign against the BBC is working."

The BBC said last night: "The attention of the press and politicians is firmly focused on the BBC at the moment. It is not surprising that we should be discussing how we handle inquiries about a prime ministerial interview."

A spokesman said it was "absolute nonsense" to suggest the memo was anything to do with the series of attacks on the BBC this week by The disclosure comes after a four-day onslaught against the BBC by senior Cabinet ministers including Michael Howard, Jonathan Aitken and Jeremy Hanley. "It has nothing to do with that. It is about us making sure that we fulfil our obligations of impartiality."

However, Labour leadership sources suggested last night that the interview was part of a local elections strategy and that the BBC was helping the Tories to disguise that. If that was the case it

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ADRIAN BROOKS

With six plumed black horses in front and more than twenty limousines behind, Reginald Kray had to make do with a modest blue estate car for the grand procession to his twin's funeral yesterday

East End honours villain turned folk hero

BY ALAN HAMILTON AND STEWART TENDLER

THE East End accorded one of its most infamous sons the equivalent of a state funeral yesterday. Crowds big enough to gladden the heart of an emperor turned out to shower the last journey of Ronnie Kray with tribute, and to greet his handcuffed twin brother Reggie as though he were a conquering hero.

Thousands lined the route of the cortège from the funeral parlour in Bethnal Green, where the body had lain in state in an open coffin under 24-hour guard, to St Matthew's church nearby, and even for much of the 12-mile route to the family burial plot in Chingford Mount cemetery.

As a final tribute to his twin, Reg had a message printed in the funeral order of service: "My brother Ron is now free and at peace. Ron had great humour, a vicious temper, was kind and generous. He did it all his way, but above all he was a man. That's how I will always remember my twin brother Ron. God bless."

The Kray twins, who long ago assumed the status of folk heroes, were each serving 30 years for different murders. Ronnie, the elder of the two by 45 minutes, died of a heart attack in Broadmoor two weeks ago aged 61; Reggie was let out of Maidstone for the day under heavy guard.

Outside English's Funeral Parlour, the day began with the arrival of one vanload after another of flowers that almost blocked the pavement. Underworld floral tributes are an art form all their own. Atop the hearse was a wreath fashioned like a boxing ring, and another like a boxing glove, side by side with a relatively restrained spray of orchids and roses with lots of love from Barbara Windsor.

The twins' older brother, Charlie, arrived at the funeral

Continued on page 3, col 5

Shake-up for Army command

The most radical Army shake-up in 50 years will place all its fighting units under the command of a single general for the first time this week. Land Command, the Army headquarters to be formed on Saturday, will bring together 143,200 regular and reserve troops across Great Britain, and overseas and will be run by by General Sir John Wilsey.

European games

In qualifying matches for the European championship last night, Scotland held Russia to a goalless draw in Moscow while Northern Ireland managed a 1-1 draw against the Republic of Ireland in Dublin.

Wales lost 3-1 to Bulgaria in Sofia ..... Page 44

Aitken denies Iran arms link

BY NICHOLAS WOOD AND JON ASHWORTH

JONATHAN AITKEN, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, last night launched a campaign to save his political career after claims that he was involved in breaching an arms embargo on Iran during its war with Iraq.

He said he had been unaware that a company of which he was once a director allegedly exported naval guns to Iran via Singapore.

But his attempt to clear his name was undermined when Gerald James, the former chairman of the firm BMARC and Astra Holdings, its parent company, claimed that Mr Aitken knew about the Iranian connection.

Mr Aitken said he was being "targeted" by "unfriendly voices", and said he had evidence to ensure that he suffered no lasting damage in front of a "fair-minded public and House of Commons". He had passed correspondence on the affair to the Scott Inquiry — which is investigating sales of arms to Iraq — and would be happy to abide by its verdict.



Aitken: 'targeted by unfriendly voices'

Downing Street officials stood by Mr Aitken last night as Labour pressed John Major for an immediate inquiry. Mr Aitken was considering making a personal statement to MPs today.

Speaking to reporters at the Treasury, he said his testimony could be corroborated by three other directors of the Lincolnshire-based BMARC, of which he was a non-executive board member between 1988 and 1990, when he was a backbench Tory MP. The company collapsed in February 1992. Major General Donald Isles, former deputy managing director of BMARC, said there had been no reason to suspect that the £13million order, known as Project Lisi, was ever anything more than a normal shipment to Singapore. The cargo was destined for Charter Industries (CIS) in Singapore, a big local defence manufacturer.

He said: "It was just a normal contract under an export licence to Singapore which is a member of the Commonwealth, and no end-user certificate was needed. Mr Aitken would know only that this was a contract with CIS in Singapore." End-user certificates specifying terms of usage are required for deals with non-Commonwealth countries.

Continued on page 2, col 6

Spotlight on efficiency of councils

BY IAN MURRAY, COMMUNITY CORRESPONDENT

THE best and worst councils in England and Wales are exposed by the Audit Commission today in the first set of annual league tables for local authority performance.

There are wide variations in the delivery of most services, even among authorities with the same kind of political control or working in the same geographical area.

Several councils have complained that the tables, produced as part of the Citizen's Charter, are unfair.

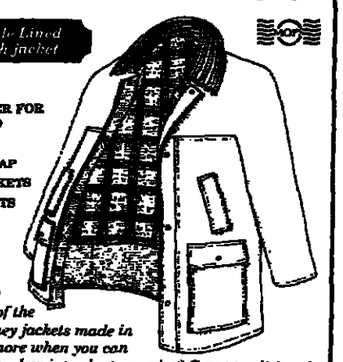
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Conference marks turning point — for quails

CONFERENCE SKETCH ☐ MATTHEW PARRIS

OCCASIONS, like institutions, are given away by the smallest of outward signs. The presence of marble, plate-glass, Mercedes Benzes, Royalty. Men with Walkie-Talkies and Women in Hats, is an unerring tell-tale. Don't even think about going. The occasion will be fatuous.

Nearing yesterday's Royal Institute of International Affairs Conference on Britain in the World at the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre, I saw a line of seven Mercedes, a Daimler, two Rolls-Royces, one stretch Cadillac, three Jags and a vastly increased incidence of women in hats.

The plate glass doors of the marbled Conference Centre loomed. The walkie-talkies crackled. The heart sank.

Having failed to arrange accreditation I just walked in, carrying my LT two-zone Travelcard. The walkie-talkies were too busy walky-talkying to each other to notice. The Hats only ever notice other Hats. The key to establishing one's place in the sun on *nobody* has any business to be there. Nobody has any business. Everybody is there.

Prince Charles was there. The PM was there. The Foreign Secretary was there. Henry Kissinger. Sir David Puttnam. Lord Weidenfeld and Mr Russell Twisk of the *Reader's Digest* were there; 706 grandees, diplomats, politicos, aidniks, peaceniks, warniks, apparatchiks and spooks were there; 200 journalists were there, watching them watch each other.

The bunfight divided into two sections: grand and not-so-grand, each graced by nomenclature which appears to be English but has no real English meaning. The grand bunfight was called "Plenary Session". "Plenary" is Eurospeak and means the real McCoy. Other sessions were called "Break-Out Sessions". "Break-Out" is PR-speak and means nothing. I headed "Democracy and Development", which means foreign aid. The panel was chaired by Diana Warwick (recycled from the Nolan Committee; within a radius of one mile of Westminster and Whitehall everyone chairs each other's committees). It comprised a "rapporteur" (Eurospeak for God knows what. He seemed to be writing) and four speakers.

The "rapporteur" was a professor. The speakers were one Tory baroness and privy councillor, one Labour baroness, one baron professor, and a Nigerian general. The general did not turn up as he was under house arrest.

The first speaker from the floor was an Anglican cleric with a beard. It struck me that if you wanted a mental checklist of what to avoid if democracy and development are to thrive, you could do worse than start your list with beards, generals, peers, privy

The ideal speaker for this conference would be titled The Reverend the Right Hon General Professor Lord Beard, and would arrive in a stretch-Cadillac, his wife in a hat.

Nothing of consequence was said. In the absent general's place a stand-in (with a beard) said that the last person he had substituted for was the late Diana Dors. He seemed to think this was incongruous. But Diana Dors could have substituted for any of us, Dionne Warwick could replace Diana Warwick and the Nolan Sisters staff the Nolan Committee, for all the difference it would make.

It was time for lunch. The hour of the Hats was nigh. An address by the Prince of Wales would be followed by a meal of quails in a chutney sauce. The conference was said to mark a turning-point. Only for the quails.

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Henry Kissinger, page 18
Leading article, page 19

Lottery success spells end for cancer charity's £1.5m fundraiser

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

HUNDREDS of small charities and fundraising schemes stand to lose millions of pounds in public donations as a direct result of the National Lottery, it was claimed last night.

Stuart Etherington, chief executive of the National Council for Voluntary Organisations, said many charities that raised funds from games of chance, such as raffles and scratchcard games, had already seen a drop in their incomes. "The assumption must be that charities raising funds in a similar way to the lottery must be hardest hit."

Tenovus, a leading cancer charity based in Cardiff, said yesterday it was closing its monthly lottery game, which raises £1.5 million a year and provides eight full-time and 500 part-time jobs.

Michael Downs, the charity's organising secretary, said Tenovus, whose patron is Princess Margaret, expected its annual income of £3 million to halve as a result. There had been a 25 per cent drop in ticket sales since the National Lottery was launched in November.

Mr Downs plans to ask Stephen Dorrell, the Heritage Secretary, for compensation to make up for the shortfall in its income. "We simply could not compete against the massive prizes and advertising budgets that Camelot, the organisers of the National Lottery, had at their disposal."

Tenovus offered a monthly top prize of £25,000, compared with the multimillion-pound jackpots of the National Lottery on-line game and a top prize of £50,000 on its scratchcard game. The charity will continue its operations on a smaller scale.

The Lotteries Council, representing 150 small charity and sports club lotteries, said yesterday that it had repeatedly warned the Government that the National Lottery could kill local fund-raising draws. Ron Allen, the general executive, said that takings among his members had declined by 15 to 20 per cent since the launch of the National Lottery.

Steve Walmsley, commercial manager at third division Rochdale Football Club, said his weekly draw had lost 2,600 of its 12,500 members since the launch of the National Lottery and that it was now losing 30 to 40 more a week.

"In the last couple of weeks we have managed to recruit more new members than we have lost, but the net fall in our income will still be £80,000 this year," he said.

Miriam Lewis, who runs a fund-raising lottery for the Bury Hospice in Greater Manchester, said that it was clear that money was being diverted from local charities to the National Lottery.

Alun Michael, a Labour spokesman, tabled a Commons early-day motion yesterday calling on the Government to find ways of meeting Tenovus's shortfall. "The Government needs to make sure that charity lotteries are not trampled underfoot by it," he said.

The National Council for Voluntary Organisations is due to unveil details on Friday of a survey into the threat the National Lottery is posing to charities. In December it predicted a £172 million loss in charitable donations as a result of the lottery.

The Heritage Department declined to comment. Delivering a lecture in Liverpool, Mr Dorrell said the lottery had raised roughly £300 million for the five good causes of the arts, sports, heritage, charities and the millennium celebrations.

Biggest reform of Army since war

BY MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

NEARLY 140,000 regular and part-time soldiers are to be drawn under a single command from April 1 in the biggest reorganisation of the British Army since the Second World War.

One commander, General Sir John Wilsey, will be responsible for most of the Army's fighting force and all the combat equipment at home and throughout the world. He will have a budget of just under £3 billion. The restructuring of the Army, with a single Land Command, was ordered after it became clear that British troops would be increasingly home-based. With the end of the Cold War and the withdrawal of half the troops from Germany, the Army has had to face up to different priorities.

As commander-in-chief United Kingdom Land Forces, a role which will be scrapped from April 1, General Wilsey has had to save more than £9 million from his budget, after last year's Frontline First defence costs study which resulted in widescale cuts in the support services.

The new Land Command, which will be based at Erskine barracks at Wilton, near Salisbury, will be responsible for all operational troops in Britain, Germany, Nepal and Brunei, and also the training teams in Canada, Belize and Kenya.

Labour continues assault on moral high ground

Blair plans to remove incentives for solo parents

BY JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

TONY BLAIR made another determined bid for the moral high ground last night as he made clear that a "stable and well-balanced" family with two parents was preferable to one headed by a lone mother.

In what will be seen as another attempt to steal the Tories' clothes, Mr Blair also signalled that a Labour government would remove financial incentives that favour lone parents in a bid to keep families together.

Last week the Labour leader made an equally daring foray into Tory waters with a speech presenting his party as the one of duty and responsibility. Hailing Labour as the "party of the family", Mr Blair risked alienating leftwingers by insisting that children had a much better chance in life if brought up by two parents.

Speaking yesterday at a conference on women in London, Mr Blair also made clear that New Labour had no time for "political correctness". He insisted that women's issues should not be cordoned off into a special compartment. But Mr Blair indicated that a Labour government would implement policies to help working mothers. "I have no doubt that the family is and will remain the essential foundation of a strong and stable society," Mr Blair said yesterday. It was here that children learnt the basic moral values of right and wrong, social discipline and a sense of responsibility, he said.

"It is a matter of common sense to say that a child brought up in a stable and well-balanced family is more likely to develop well than one who is not; and that it can be much harder, financially and emotionally, to bring up children alone."

Mr Blair's comments came after figures from the General Household Survey showed that the proportion of families with dependent children headed by a lone parent increased from 8 per cent in 1971 to 22 per cent in 1993.

Last July Mr Blair infuriated many Labour MPs by using a television interview to criticise single mothers who deliberately had children outside stable relationships. He insisted then that it was "best for kids to be brought up in a stable environment with two parents". Last night sources close to the Labour leader emphasised that Mr Blair had no intention of stigmatising single parents or their children.



Tony Blair, reclaiming language of responsibility

Mr Blair also said: "I believe it speaks volumes for the intellectual arrogance of the Right through the 1980s and 1990s that they believe they have a monopoly on the language of right and wrong, duty and responsibility and that for a Labour MP to speak this language is somehow to concede political ground ... This is Labour language ... These are Labour values."

In his speech to a conference organised by *She*, Mr Blair said: "The Conservatives came to power as the 'party of the family'. But they are no more the party of strong families than they are the party of law and order or the party of economic competence."

Mr Blair outlined areas where Labour would help working families. These included flexible benefits to get round the "absurd" situation where if a man loses his job, he loses unemployment benefit if his wife goes to work.

A Labour government would also introduce intensive training sessions for women who take career breaks.

Household survey, page 8
New Labour woman, page 10

Two-week car tax amnesty ended

BY JONATHAN PRYNN
TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

THE traditional two-week amnesty after a tax disc runs out is to be ended under a clampdown on excise dodgers. An "off-road Licence" costing only £5 a year has also been proposed for the owners of vintage cars and others who use their vehicles only rarely.

The Government announced yesterday that all 30 million vehicles in Britain will have to be licensed throughout the year from 1998. At present owners of vehicles kept off the road for more than a month are allowed to be unlicensed for part of the year.

Ice-cream vendors, many motor-caravanners, owners of rarely driven vintage cars, and secondhand car dealers, who currently do not need licences for their forecourt vehicles, had feared they would have to pay a full year's duty under the new system of "continuous licensing".

Yesterday, however, they learned that there will be an "off road licence" which will have only an administrative fee of £5 a year.

The proposals are aimed at clamping down on road-tax dodgers, who cost the taxpayer about £160 million a year. There are thought to be up to three million vehicles kept illegally on the roads.

The Government is also to reduce the paperwork on car sales. The buyer and seller will fill in a joint form for the licensing agency in Swansea, rather than each having to inform the agency.

Moderate teachers in class size protest

Gillian Shephard's peace offensive in schools appeared to be collapsing last night as it emerged that moderate teachers are preparing to take industrial action against classes with more than 31 pupils. The Education Secretary faces the growing threat of a revolt by the Association of Teachers and Lecturers against spending cuts in state schools. The union has taken national action only once in the past 15 years, triggering the demise of John Patten, the former Education Secretary.

The association, the most temperate classroom union and regarded by ministers as a barometer of the profession, is expected at its annual conference in Harrogate next month to authorise teachers to refuse to take classes that exceed union limits after a ballot. One third of primary classes has more than 30 pupils and the proportion is expected to climb as threatened cuts begin to bite.

Examiner too severe

Pupils at Portchester Community School, Hampshire, were denied places at sixth-form college and paid for tutors and night classes they did not need after an examiner marked their GCSE English papers too severely. All marks awarded by the anonymous examiner had to be reviewed after nearly a fifth of the school's candidates were upgraded.

Howard backs life term

The Home Secretary told MPs last night he was opposed to scrapping the mandatory life sentence for murder despite overwhelming support for abolition from senior judges. Michael Howard said that a change would send out "a signal that public disapproval of murder was no longer as strong as it had been in the past".

IRA talks face delay

Ministerial talks with Sinn Fein were delayed last night as the Government sought fresh clarification of the Republican negotiating position after concern that Gerry Adams still intended to link the decommissioning of IRA weapons to "British demilitarisation". The Sinn Fein president had earlier indicated that he would not make such a demand.

Award for Gateshead

Gateshead has been honoured for its public art programme with an award from the National Art Collections Fund. The awards, in their ninth year, are given for outstanding achievement in the presentation and interpretation of the visual arts. Since 1986, Gateshead council has commissioned 17 works of art and there are plans for an avant-garde gallery.

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Film guide pulped after Halliwell family protests

BY DALYA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

UNSOLD copies of Hodder & Stoughton's new *Radio Times Film & Video Guide* are to be destroyed because parts were found to be similar to *Halliwell's Film Guide*, the film-buff's bible. Even the errors in Leslie Halliwell's guide were reproduced in the new publication.

John Walker, Editor of *Halliwell's*, said that some of the wording in the reviews and production details were virtually identical. *Halliwell's* review of *Sanstruck*, a 1972 film starring Harry Secombe, with the *Radio Times* guide. *Halliwell's*: "A shy Welsh schoolmaster emigrates to the Australian outback. Simple-minded, uninspired, predictable family comedy for star fans." The *Radio Times* guide: "Secombe finds the perfect role as a shy Welsh schoolmaster emigrating to the Australian outback in this simple family comedy film, mainly for his fans." For *Walkabout*, *Halliwell's* 7th edition misspelt the name of the Aborigine actor David Gulpilil as Gulmilil. That spelling appears in the *Radio Times* guide.

Action was taken by HarperCollins, publishers of *Halliwell's*, and Ruth Halliwell and Mr Walker, the copyright owners. In settling a High Court copyright infringement action, Hodder & Stoughton, publishers of the *Radio Times Film & Video Guide*, paid "a substantial sum" in damages and costs. They pledged that booksellers will be asked to return remaining stocks of the publication, priced at £14.99, and they will be pulped. The guide has been withdrawn until a 1998 edition.

The book was written by Derek Winnert, the film reviewer for the *Radio Times* until three weeks ago. The *Radio Times* was not involved in preparing the guide and is not implicated in the copyright infringement.

Mr Walker said: "I find it extraordinary. Leslie Halliwell spent 20 years writing his renowned film guide. It is most unfair that competing film guides should benefit from all this painstaking and time-consuming work."

Martin Neild, managing director of Hodder & Stoughton, said that this was the only book they had done with the author, and it was before the current Hodder management took over.

Stephen Fry sued for breach of contract

BY DALYA ALBERGE
ARTS CORRESPONDENT

STEPHEN FRY, who walked out of the West End play *Cell Mates*, is being sued for up to £500,000 damages by the producers, Triumph Proscenium, who accuse him of breach of contract.

Fry's solicitor said yesterday that a 13-page psychiatrist's report on his client had been given to the producers of Simon Gray's Cell Mates as evidence that the actor is ill. The producers, whose losses will be covered by insurance if the actor proves to have been ill, are calling for Fry to be medically examined.

A spokesman for the producers said: "Some while after Stephen Fry's disappearance it was suggested that his departure was the result of illness. This, however, has not been established."

He added that Fry's departure "had a very damaging affect on ticket sales and caused the show to close prematurely with large financial losses."

Fry's solicitor, Anthony Julius, said the producers had had for a week a full psychiatrist's report "which establishes beyond any doubt that he was and is ill and could not have continued in the play".

He added that the report was produced by an "independent, highly respected psychiatrist". "The only effect of litigation will be to retard his recovery. He is unwell and receiving treatment."

Cell Mates was to have run at the Albery Theatre until May but closed last Saturday after Fry fled to Belgium.

Panorama

Continued from page 1

would be unacceptable. They also called on the BBC to publish the written bids that have accompanied the requests to Downing Street for interviews and the written replies.

The BBC is expected to come under pressure from Labour today to explain whether the interview contravenes its charter or its duty for fairness and balance in its political coverage, especially during electorally sensitive periods.

The memo also says that the Dowing Street press office said that Tony Hall, head of BBC news and current affairs, would have conversations with Number 10 about the content of the interview. It adds: "How will this work in practice and have any commitments been made already?"

The BBC made plain last night that although Mr Hall had agreed the interview with Christopher Meyer, Mr Major's press secretary, he had not been involved in discussions about its content. However, Labour sources said they would be pressing the BBC over the suggestion that "commitments" might have been

Aitken denies arms link

Continued from page 1

Roy Barber, who succeeded Mr James as chairman and asked the DTI to appoint inspectors, said he thought it "highly unlikely" that Mr Aitken would have known what was going on. Mr Aitken, whose career was nearly wrecked five months ago over claims that he lied about who paid the bill for a stay at the Ritz Hotel in Paris, began the day by putting out a statement rejecting criticism of his conduct in a report in *The Independent*.

But later, Mr James was questioned about Mr Aitken's claims that he had left the relevant board meeting before the contract was discussed and did not know that the arms were going to Iran. Mr James said: "Well, I think that's rubbish, because his name is on the minutes." Mr James said the official destination of the arms was Singapore, but the company's directors knew where they were really going. "It was quite clearly going to Iran. It was common knowledge it was going to Iran," he said. The controversy centred on the £13 million order known as pore), under which BMARC supplied components for naval guns to CIS in Singapore. Mr James told a Commons committee three years ago that Project Lisi involved the shipment of arms, ammunition and tooling to Iran, via Singapore.

In his evidence then to the Trade and Industry Select Committee, Mr James claimed that three Astra divisions traded with Iraq during the arms embargo, and spoke of pressure from investors and bankers with military and government connections, a group he dubbed "the Savoy mafia".

But Mr Aitken said he had never been briefed on Project Lisi. As far as he was concerned — and other directors of the failed company — it was a straightforward contract with a Singapore company.

"Seven years after the event, I have no recollection of ever having heard about 'Project Lisi' or read about it in company reports." But the minister's defence was shaken by Mr James in a BBC radio interview. He said Project Lisi had been discussed at a board meeting attended by Mr Ait-

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Crowd control was exercised by police and by men built like wardrobes; the crowd behaved itself

CHRIS HARRIS



Reggie Kray at his twin's funeral, with "Mad" Frankie Fraser of the rival Richardson gang at his right hand

Thousands bid a grand farewell to the villain turned local hero

Continued from page 1

parlour in a Rolls-Royce shortly after the glass-front hearse decorated with gilt pulled up.

On the side of the leading car was Reggie's wreath, with the message "To the other half of me" *boldly spelt out in* white chrysanthemums. On the roof, the undertaker's men balanced a huge square wreath whose centrepiece was a rather bad painting of the twins and bearing the message: "Ron misunderstood, but simply the best," from a certain Rita. On another car, another boxing glove, this time from Durham jail, and labelled: "To Ronnie with love and affection from Linda Calvey, Tina Malloy and the girls at H wing." Calvey was jailed for life in 1991 for murdering her lover.

Crowd control was exercised partly by police, and partly by men built like wardrobes inside dark boxy suits, with close-cropped bullet heads and gold rings the size of ingots on every finger. The crowd, by now several thousand strong,behaved itself.

The dark oak coffin topped by a cross of white flowers was borne out by Charlie Kray and five other men representing what might be called areas of influence in north, south, east and west London. One was Freddie Foreman, out on parole after doing time for the Security Express robbery. It was loaded into a glass-sided Victorian-style hearse drawn by six black-plumed horses.

The cortège moved off, preceded by Paul Keys, the head undertaker, in black silk topper, frock coat and rolled umbrella. Behind him, at walking pace, there followed a procession fit for a deceased monarch. First the hearse, *then a blue Home Office* Peugeot estate car with Reggie squeezed in the back seat between a male and female prison officer, handcuffed to the male and greeting the crowd that pressed against the car windows with his right hand. Behind Reggie stretched a line of no fewer than 26 Daimler limousines, each packed with mourners.

As the quarter-mile long procession wound its way through the crowded backstreets, it paused briefly at the bottom of Vallance Road, where Violet Kray brought up her boys. The hearse had difficulty making its way along St Matthew's Row to the church gate, such was the press of spectators who cheered and whistled as Reggie left his car. It took 25 *minutes to get the coffin out of* the hearse and into a church filled with 300 mourners. Another 100 stood outside listening on a public address system.

A record of Frank Sinatra singing *My Way* was played, followed by another of Whitney Houston singing *I Will Always Love You* before the *mourners themselves sang Fight The Good Fight* and *Morning Has Broken*. The order of service bore an additional message to that of Reggie, stating that Charlie and Reg wished included in the service "friends who cannot be here today, friends from Broadmoor and prisons... They are with us in spirit."

As the procession emerged from the church the crowd again became animated, *chanting* "Reggie, Reggie, free Reggie, Reggie out" and almost coming to blows in their fight for souvenir hymn sheets being handed out at the gate. Police fought to clear a path as the hearse, now draped with a new floral tribute spelling out Ronnie's self-bestowed title "The Colonel", set off on its two-hour journey to Chingford where thousands more crowded round the cemetery gates. Police and a contingent of walking wardrobes would let in only bona fide friends and mourners — and all reporters and television crews. Brother Charlie had wanted a quiet funeral: Reggie wanted, and got, the works.

Five vanloads of police lurked in the trees close to the grave as Ronnie was lowered into the earth beside his parents Charlie and Violet, and next to his sister-in-law Frances, who killed herself a year after marrying Reggie.

Within minutes of the coffin disappearing into its hole, four police motorcyclists with blue lights flashing escorted the blue Peugeot estate car at great speed out of the back gate. Reggie, on his first outing since Violet died in 1983, was on his way back to his cell, probably wondering whether, when his time came, he, too, would get the works.

Simple service with no hymns for West

By Bill Frost

FREDERICK WEST was cremated yesterday after what was described as a simple family service without hymns.

The private funeral of the 53-year-old builder from Gloucester, who had been charged with 12 murders, took place at Canley crematorium, Coventry. There was only a handful of mourners, including West's son, Stephen, and daughter Mae.

The service was conducted by the Rev Robert Simpson, priest-in-charge of St Mary's in Newent, Gloucestershire, who said afterwards: "We believe in a God who receives those who turn to him in repentance."

It was announced yesterday that Detective Constable Hazel Savage, who played a leading role in the Cromwell Street murder inquiry, is to face disciplinary proceedings over an allegation that she tried to sell her story for £1 million.

Stepfather jailed for murder convinces doctors of innocence

By A Staff Reporter

A LORRY driver, who has spent his time in prison studying the human brain to prove he did not murder a disabled child, is expected to be freed by the Court of Appeal within the next two weeks after convincing doctors he could not have killed her.

Kevin Callan was jailed three years ago at Manchester Crown Court for murdering Amanda Allman, his four-year-old stepdaughter, at their home in Hyde, Greater Manchester. He was convicted mainly on the evidence of Dr Geoffrey Garrett, a Home Office pathologist, who concluded that the child, who suffered from cerebral palsy, was probably shaken to death.

From his prison cell in Wakefield Prison, Callan, who left school with no qualifications, set about proving to Crown lawyers that the child's injuries were consistent with a fall and not with being shaken. Yesterday he was told that the Crown would not oppose his appeal. A hearing in the Court of Appeal will be arranged within the next two weeks.

Callan, 36, said he found the girl unconscious in the bathroom and tried to revive her with the kiss of life. He said she had fallen earlier from a slide which may have caused two brain haemorrhages.



Amanda, left, and Callan, convicted of her murder

The girl's mother, Lesley Allman, stood by Callan and told the court that he was "a kind man" and a good father to Amanda. She was "doll-like" after her growth was *hindered by cerebral palsy.*

Since his imprisonment in January 1992, Callan has combed through every available medical book on the brain. He has corresponded with the world's leading neurosurgeons and by March last year two eminent neuropathologists agreed with his conclusions.

It was a report by one of these pathologists, Dr Phillip Wrightson from New Zealand, that enabled Callan to approach the Court of Appeal, which agreed to fund another report into the case by Dr Helen Whitwell, a leading neuropathologist in this country. Leave to appeal was granted last November.

Callan's solicitor, Campbell Malone, said: "The prosecu*tion obtained their own reports* which confirmed what Mr Callan has always maintained throughout, that he had not shaken this girl to death.

"The injuries that led to her death were more likely to have been caused by direct impact and not by shaking. The explanation given by Mr Callan at the time of his arrest and trial was that the child's death had been caused by a fall and that as she suffered from cerebral palsy she was prone to falls."

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Missing man linked to fugitive

By Stewart Tendler and Mike Horsnell

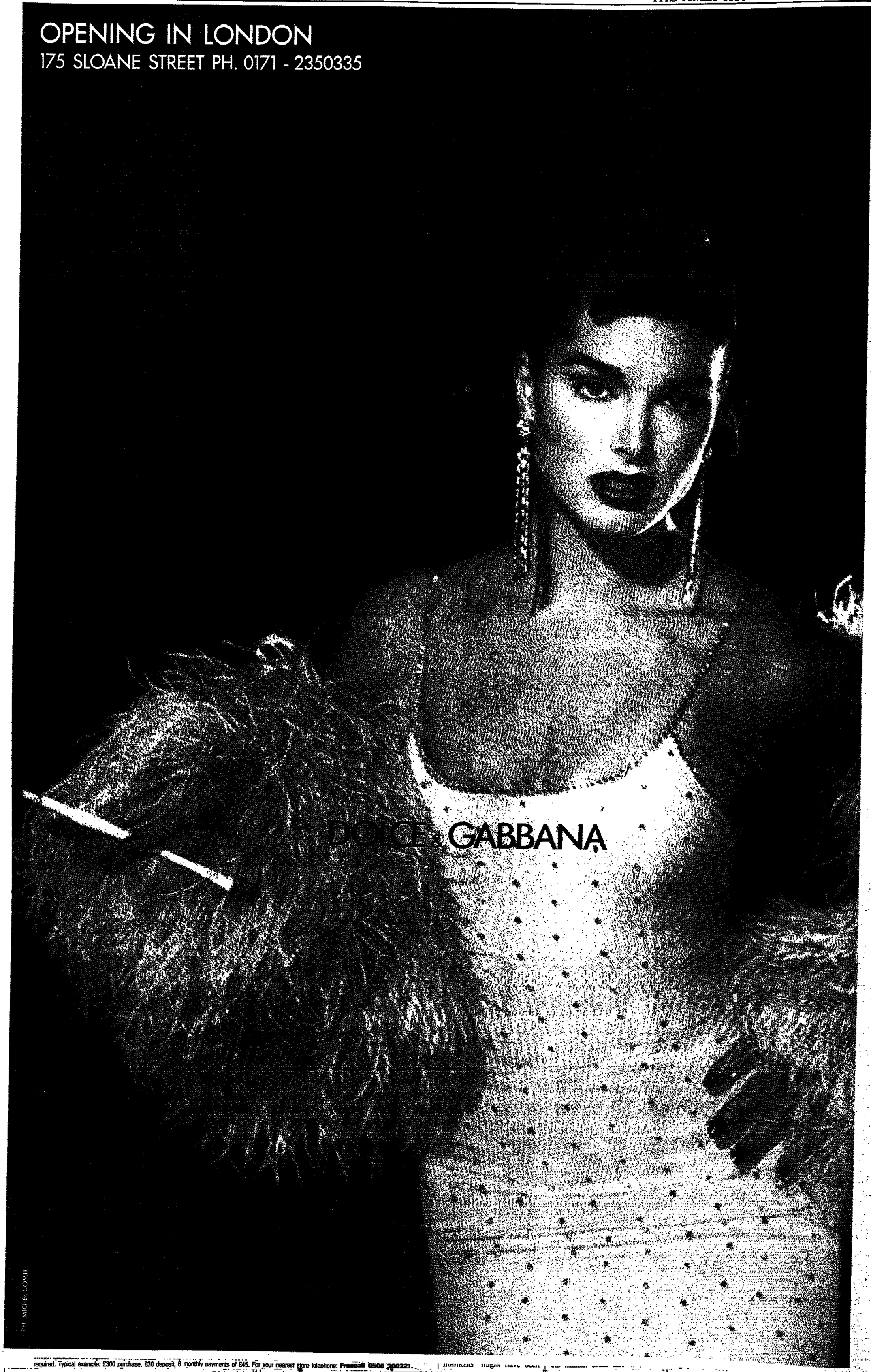
THE disappearance of a south London financial adviser is being linked to John Scripps, the escaped British prisoner being held in Singapore and suspected of up to five murders.

Scotland Yard is investigating links between Scripps and Timothy McDowall, 28, a businessman, who was reported missing in Mexico or southern California in January while on holiday. Police have discovered that cash was transferred from Mr McDowall's account to a company run by Scripps in Singapore around the time Mr McDowall disappeared.

The account was in the name of John Martin, a name that Scripps has used over the years. Detectives know that Scripps was in Mexico at the end of the year and they fear Mr McDowall could have been murdered.

Scripps, 35, from Letchworth, Hertfordshire, has been charged with murdering a South African, cutting up his body and throwing it into Singapore harbour.

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Why a wayward Russian Bear put jumbo to flight

BY HARVEY ELLIOTT
AIR CORRESPONDENT

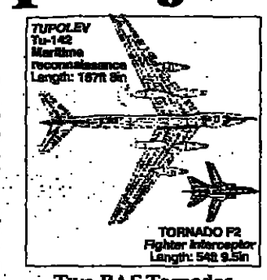
A RUSSIAN bomber with a crew who could not speak English blundered around the skies off the East Coast while helpless air traffic controllers watched as it flew worryingly close to a jumbo jet.

The giant Tupolev 142 "Bear" was one of a group of three Soviet jets on their way to the international air tattoo at Fairford. As they entered British air space last July two RAF Tornado fighters were sent to intercept and escort them into the Gloucestershire airfield.

However, according to an official Civil Aviation Authority report published yesterday, the TU 142's height varied wildly by up to 700ft. It eventually came within 500ft vertically and four miles horizontally of a Dutch Boeing 747 filled with passengers and heading for Los Angeles.

The pilot of the jumbo jet was alerted to the situation when his collision avoidance warning sounded as he climbed through 23,500ft.

The official report by the Joint Airmiss Working Group says: "Limited English spoken by the TU 142's crew meant that all turns, climbs and descents were delayed and instructions had to be repeated several times. There was the possibility that heights in feet were being inaccurately converted to metres as heights were changing randomly by up to 700ft and the aircraft was flying anywhere within 15 degrees of heading."



Two RAF Tornados intercepted the Tupolev

The original Russian group consisted of two Bears and an Ilyushin IL 76 "Candid" transporter. "Due to weather the package had become separated and when intercepted by the Tornado F3s it was stretched with some 10 miles between each aircraft."

The military air traffic controller at West Drayton "sounded concerned" as he rang the North Sea controller to ask what the Boeing 747 was doing. As the weather deteriorated the harassed controller suddenly found the problem made more complex by "the unexpected appearance of a Hawk aircraft on a photographic task".

Speaking first to the Tornado, then on a different wavelength to the Russian pilot, the controller tried to talk the Bear down towards Fairford through the busy airlanes linking northern Europe with the main transatlantic airway. But as they crossed the airway known as B5, their paths coincided with that of the Dutch jumbo.

Members of the working group wanted to know why the Tornado could not have done more to guide the Russian bomber away from danger. "The answer was that hand signals could be used but would not necessarily be understood," the report says.

The number of airmisses is increasing. In the four months to August last year there were 22 reported air misses involving commercial aircraft in British air space, an increase of five on the same period of 1993. Seven were categorised as risk-bearing compared with four between May and August the previous year.

Trident sub damaged

THE Royal Navy's first Trident ballistic missile submarine was damaged during trials in America last summer, Ministry of Defence officials disclosed yesterday (Michael Evans writes).

Part of *HMS Vanguard*'s sonar array cable, which runs behind the 16,000-ton submarine to detect other vessels, was sucked into its propulsor system.

Rear Admiral Richard Irwin, chief of the MoD's strategic systems executive, told the Commons Defence Select Committee it was impossible to guarantee the accident could not happen again.

MARTIN BEDDALL


Lee Ryan and his partner Karen Taylor yesterday with their children Nile, 6, left, Nadeyne, 11, and Dennis, 14

£6.5m lottery winner on theft charge

THE organisers of the National Lottery learnt yesterday just how much of a lottery life can be when the biggest jackpot winners to reveal their identities turned out to be a suspected car thief and his partner (Joe Joseph writes).

Lee Ryan, a jobless father of three who won £6.5 million on March 11 with Karen Taylor, is to stand trial in Leicester in July for alleged theft and handling of cars. Mr Ryan, who has bought a £45,000 Jaguar, ordered a Ferrari, and moved into a new £180,000 mock-Tudor home in Leicester since his windfall, says he is innocent and will plead not guilty.

After *The Sun* had disclosed the charges against Mr Ryan, a lottery spokesman told a news conference: "Every person is innocent until proven guilty. Everybody in this country over the age of 16 is entitled to play the lottery ... all sorts of people will be winners."

Mr Ryan's barrister blocked all questions about the impending trial so journalists turned to how Mr Ryan, 32, would fill his days of leisure. As he had no job to give up, he said he would continue to write his "poetry and stuff" and might now get a book published.

Consultant censured over NHS bed hunt

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A HOSPITAL consultant was censured yesterday for not doing more to find a bed for a dying man who was flown 200 miles for treatment.

An investigation has found that beds were available at two hospitals in London, where the patient had been the victim of a hit-and-run accident. Malcolm Murray, 46, went for ten hours without treatment during the search for an intensive-care bed. At least 14 hospitals are thought to have been contacted. He was flown by helicopter from south London to Leeds.

Mr Murray died the next day from brain injuries. The inquiry says that finding a bed earlier would probably not have made any difference to the clinical outcome.

South Thames Regional Health Authority says that Anthony Percy, head of accident and emergency at Queen Mary's Hospital in Sidcup, south London, where Mr Murray was originally taken, could have made a "significant difference" in the search for a bed. He was phoned at home at 2.17am and told the junior doctor on duty to try hospitals outside London.

Two beds were available at the Royal Free Hospital in Hampstead, north London, and two became available at Brook General Hospital in Greenwich early next day. Several neurosurgery centres said they would have admitted Mr Murray.

Mr Percy said: "I am apalled at the criticism being levelled at Queen Mary's and myself. The trauma team spent almost the whole night trying to find a suitable bed and were simply unable to do so. I do not intend to take the position of a scapegoat."

Yesterday William Wells, chairman of the health authority and of the inquiry, said that Mr Percy's role was a "contributing factor". The report calls for better referral systems and communications.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Ramblers denounce £8m scheme

A Government scheme to pay landowners £8 million over ten years to allow the public access to the countryside was denounced as "a scandalous rip-off" by the Ramblers' Association. The association said that almost half the 800 sites said to offer new access already had public footpaths running though them.

Stabbing charge

A girl, 17, accused of attempting to murder a store detective who was stabbed after chasing a suspected shoplifter, was remanded on bail by Cardiff magistrates.

24 injured

Twenty-four people were taken to three hospitals after a bus and a heavy goods lorry crashed in Liverpool. Most suffered minor injuries but three were detained.

Claim scheme

The Government is to introduce a scheme to speed the handling of claims for medical negligence against NHS trusts next month. Hospitals will contribute to a central fund.

Charity change

The 111-year-old Royal Scottish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children has changed it name to Children 1st. It will keep the full title for formal purposes.

Sight tests urged

The British Medical Association called for free sight tests for the elderly to halt a rise in the number going blind because of disease.

CORRECTION

Mr Richard Wells was not Chief Constable of South Yorkshire Police at the time of the Hillsborough football stadium disaster in 1989 (report March 28).

Dinosaurs found in Gobi graveyard

BY NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

- A DINOSAURS' graveyard containing the well-preserved fossils of almost 200 creatures has been found in the Gobi Desert.
- The animals appear to have been killed and buried by sandstorms. In an area of four square kilometres, American and Mongolian scientists have discovered not only the dinosaurs but also specimens of more than 400 mammals and lizards, and the first known skull of an extinct bird.
- The site, at Ukhaa Tolgod (Brown Hills) in the south-western Gobi, contains 187 creatures from several groups of dinosaurs that appear to have died at the same moment, in poses indicating death struggles. The completeness of the skeletons indicates that they were quickly covered by sand, with minimal weathering.

Reporting the discovery in *Nature*, Dr Michael Novacek of the American Museum of Natural History and colleagues say that in the Late Cretaceous period, which ended 65 million years ago, the area may have been a water hole around which animals congregated.

The small area also contains the remains of 41 horned and frilled dinosaurs known as *Protoceratopsians*, and 21 *Ankylosaurs*, creatures which were covered with thick armour-plating to ward off the flesh-eating dinosaurs.

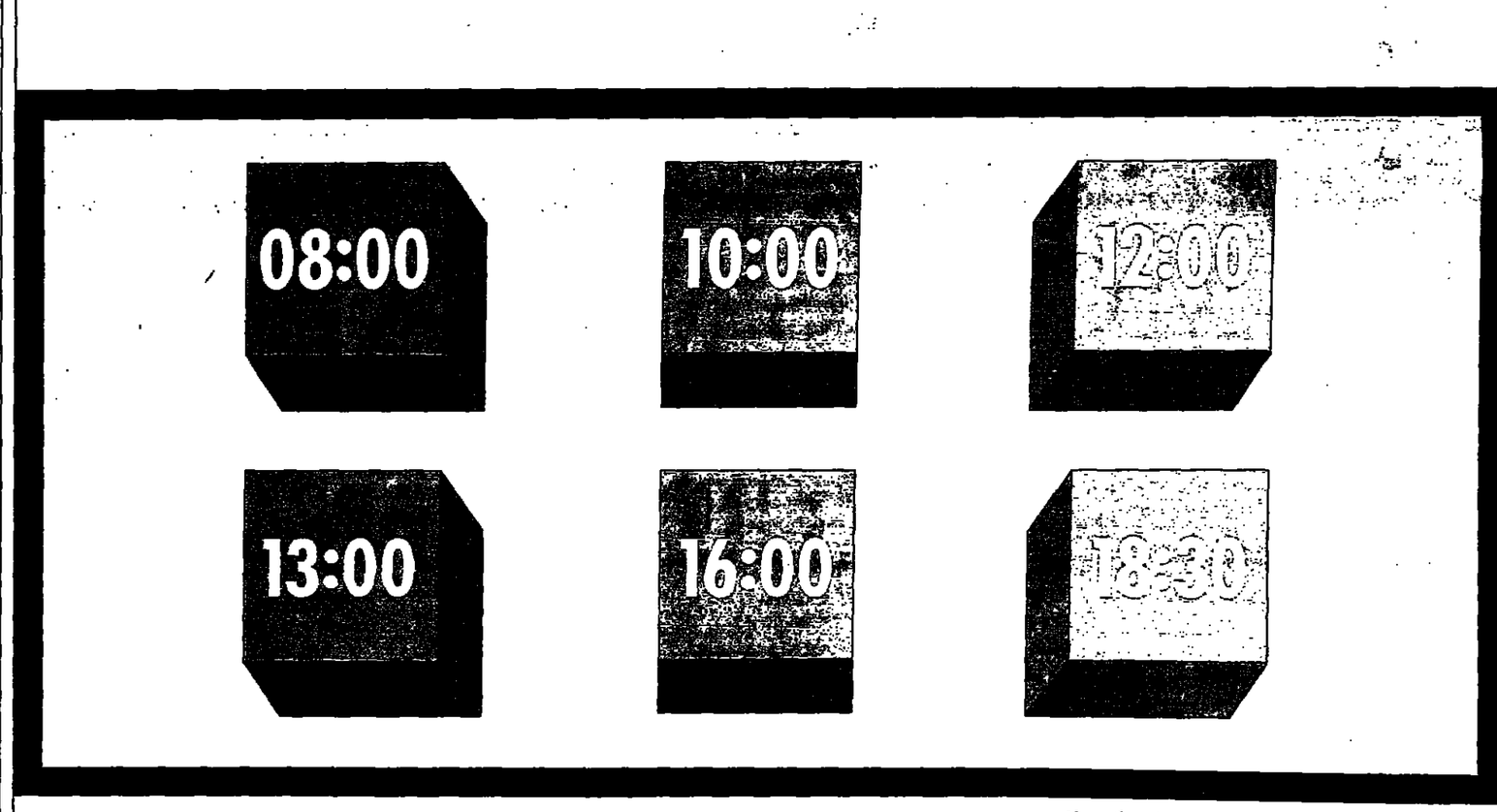
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Rail Regulator abandons core stations proposal

BY JONATHAN PRYNN, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

PLANS to cut the number of railway stations required to sell through-tickets to every destination on the network have been abandoned. The proposal created a political storm at Westminster when it emerged in January that passengers might have to travel up to 50 miles to buy a long-distance ticket from one of 294 core stations.

John Swift, the government-appointed Rail Regulator, is expected to announce next week that all 1,300 staffed British Rail stations will continue to offer the full range of tickets after privatisation. "The core station idea is dead," said one rail industry source. "John Swift had no choice but to kill it off. Even he would admit it was a mistake."

The scheme was one of three options put forward in a consultation document by Mr Swift, who is formally independent of the Government, outlining the minimum standards to be met by franchise operators after privatisation. Currently all 1,300 staffed British Rail stations, however small or remote, can sell tickets for any final destination, regardless of the number of changes of train that a journey involves.

Under the most radical option proposed by Mr Swift, only stations in large towns and cities, main interchanges or stations serving ports or airports would have been legally obliged to sell the full range of tickets.

Rail-user groups, unions and opposition MPs joined forces in accusing the Government of abandoning earlier pledges that through-ticketing would be retained after privatisation.



Swift: said to be left with no alternative

The proposal also revived fears among Tory backbenchers that rail privatisation would turn into a political "poll-tax on wheels.". Within days of the plan becoming known, Brian Mawhinney, the Transport Secretary, rejected it as "unacceptable".

The Government insisted that through-ticketing would be retained and that private-sector rail operators would develop new computer systems to make it easier for passengers to buy tickets. Ministers believe that fewer passengers will in future go to stations to buy tickets and that most will be bought over the telephone like air tickets. Roger Salmon, the rail franchise director, has already begun talks with train operators about developing a national ticket-by-phone passenger hotline.

Only a limited number of passengers would have been affected by the proposal as only about 1 per cent of rail journeys involve using more than one line. However, the political furore caused by the through-ticketing outcry came as a deep embarrassment to Dr Mawhinney.

Michael Meacher, the Shadow Transport Secretary, said the Government had been forced into a U-turn over through-ticketing by the strength of the public reaction against Mr Swift's plans. "It is absolutely clear that there was a firm commitment by the Government to carry it out and the only reason it decided to change its mind was the political storm it created," he said. "If the Government can be forced to go against its will on this then it encourages us to fight for the abandonment of other unacceptable and unwelcome aspects of privatisation."

A spokesman for the Rail Regulator refused to confirm that the core stations plan had been ditched. He said: "Following consultation on the document we are still formulating a policy statement. There will be an announcement probably next week."

JAMES MORGAN



Wearing diamanté. Dame Barbara shows off a diamond and aquamarine necklace

Cartland cashes in diamonds for fakes

BY A STAFF REPORTER

IN A distinctly unromantic move, Dame Barbara Cartland is to sell her collection of gems because real jewellery "is impractical these days". In future she will wear imitation stones, which, she says, show up better on television.

The 93-year-old novelist, whose jewels were on display at Sotheby's in London yesterday before the sale on June 22, said: "I'm on television all day every day, and so it is much better for me to have diamanté.

"Jewellery has always been part of my life," Dame Barbara said. "I think no woman should be without it. However, nowadays there simply aren't the grand parties and besides, it's almost too dangerous to wear jewellery today. I've already had one major robbery, where a lot of very precious, sentimental pieces were stolen, so now I have decided to sell the rest."

Among the items for sale is an aquamarine and diamond set designed by Dame Barbara and valued at £30,000.

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Use of slimming pills to be curbed

BY JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

SLIMMING pills containing addictive drugs face an almost certain ban under a government clampdown announced yesterday. Health Ministers decided to curb use of the pills after reports increased of mental and physical side-effects.

The amphetamine and amphetamine-type drugs are widely prescribed by private slimming clinics to women who want to lose weight quickly. Some help to reduce the appetite, others are said to speed up the metabolism so that calories are burnt faster.

Tom Sackville, a Health Minister, said yesterday: "Some doctors who prescribe these drugs for weight loss are acting unethically. There have been reports of people being damaged mentally and physically by these drugs, which can lead to addiction and psychosis. There have also been reports of loss of hair, palpitations and other side-effects."

Last year Christine Malik, 31, died five days after she was given diuretics, appetite suppressants and hormone drugs at a private clinic in London. An inquest was told that she died from multi-system failure, which a medical expert said on the "balance of probabilities" was brought on by the drugs.

Two years ago the General Medical Council warned doctors who prescribed large quantities of appetite suppressants that they would face disciplinary action. But hundreds of private slimming clinics have continued to hand out the pills. Patients are rarely willing to testify against doctors.

The GMC said: "There is no jurisdiction over slimming clinics. Anyone can set one up. Only when a patient complains about an individual doctor are abuses highlighted." Last year, it received 14 complaints. The British Medical Association said the drugs had "no real value" in the treatment of obesity.

The Medicines Control Agency is to consult doctors and pharmacists over the next three months before taking a final decision on the ban.

THE TIMES DIGITAL FORUM

Surfing the superhighway

How to survive and prosper on the information superhighway

Wrist-mounted televisions, computers and telephones, fridges that will notice when we are out of milk and tell the car to buy some on the way home: this is the digital future. Nicholas Negroponte, director of MIT's Media Laboratory in Boston, will guide *Times* readers through the technological maze in a fascinating forum on the digital revolution and its impact on our lives to be held in London on Thursday, April 6.

The forum, which marks the publication of Professor Negroponte's latest book, Being Digital (Hodder & Stoughton, £12.99), will offer readers an insider's view of what it is like to live in a digital world, with universal communication available to all at the touch of a control. Professor Negroponte's talk will be followed by questions.

Chaired by John Diamond, the *Times*'s computer guru and columnist, the forum will be held at the Institute of Education, 20 Bedford Way, London WC1, at 7.30pm.

● *Tickets at £10 (concessions £7.50), which include £2 off the price of the book, are available by telephoning Dillons on 0171-915 6613, faxing the completed coupon below to Dillons on 0171-580 7680, or by sending the completed coupon with remittance to Dillons the Bookstore, 82 Gower Street, London WC1E 6EQ. Tickets can be purchased in person at the same address.*

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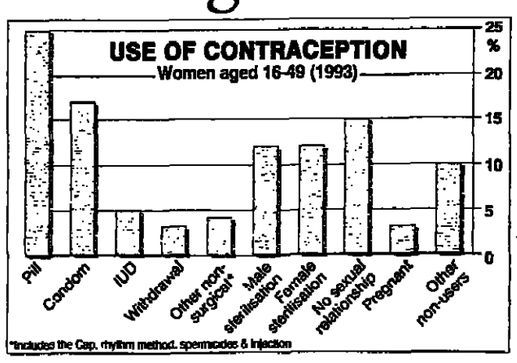
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Conventional wisdom says the new QX doesn't exist.

Young forsake Pill for condom as they heed message on safe sex



By Marianne Curphey

TEENAGERS have taken heed of advice about safe sex and have changed their main method of contraception from the Pill to the condom, the latest *General Household Survey* shows.

The male condom, once used almost exclusively by couples aged 35-44, has become the most popular contraceptive among women aged 16-19, with nearly half (45 per cent) asking their partners to use it.

Since 1986, when the Health Education Authority began to warn about the dangers of Aids, condom use among people aged 18-19 has increased from 6 to 22 per cent, the largest increase in any age group. Between 1991 and 1993 use among 16-17 year olds rose by 7 percentage points to 17 per cent.

The latest of the annual surveys by the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys, conducted in 1993, found that single women were far more likely than married or cohabiting women to have changed to the condom. It was used most among women employed in non-manual jobs who had been educated to A level or above. The Pill was still the most popular form of contraception among women "at risk" of pregnancy. Its use increased slightly between 1991 and 1993, from 23 to 25 per cent. Women in their 30s were prescribed it more often than any other age group, and sterilisation of women over 30 or their partners had fallen.

A total of 17 per cent of women used the condom, 12 per cent were sterilised and 12 per cent of women's partners were sterilised. Sterilisation was more common among married women, especially those who had had children. The majority (88 per cent) who had chosen sterilisation had been operated on as inpatients under the National Health Service.

More than 70 per cent of women aged 16-49 were using at least one method of contraception at the time of the interview; 5 per cent were trying to become pregnant and not using contraception; 15 per cent were not having a sexual relationship; and 3 per cent were pregnant.

The survey also showed that women aged 16-17 were less likely to have a partner than those aged 18-49. Those aged 45-49 were more likely to be sterile as a result of having an operation not specifically intended to prevent pregnancy, for example a hysterectomy.

Questions about the use of emergency (postcoital) contraception were included in the annual survey for the first time in 1993. Five per cent of women had used emergency contraception between 1991-1993 and 1 per cent had used it on more than one occasion.

Usage was highest in the 18-24 age group, and most were likely to have obtained treatment from their GP. The majority had been given the "morning after" Pill.

Household survey tracks rise of the lone-parent family

By Richard Ford, Home Correspondent

THE traditional British family is in decline, both in numbers and in size, according to a survey published today. In the decade to 1993, the number of households with a married or co-habiting couple and dependent children fell from 32 per cent to 24 per cent. From 1971 to 1993, the average size of families fell from 2.91 to 2.44.

The *General Household Survey* suggests, however, that the big increase in families headed by lone parents may be over: the increase between 1991 and 1993 was 1 per cent a year. Even so, from 1973 the proportion of single-parent families almost tripled to 22 per cent.

The percentage of lone mothers with two or more dependent children stabilised at 12 per cent after more than doubling in the 20 years to 1992.

The survey will fuel the political debate about the social and economic consequences of the increase in the proportion of children in homes headed by a single parent. It found that the standard of accommodation occupied by lone-parent families was lower than that lived in by other families. The single parent was more likely to live in rented accommodation, terraced housing or purpose-built flats and less likely to have central heating.

They were also likely to be less well qualified. Thirty-eight per cent of single parents had no qualifications compared with 25 per cent of other parents: lone mothers were less likely than other mothers to be in paid employment.

When lone mothers did work, a higher proportion were in full-time employment than married and co-habiting mothers. A much higher proportion of lone-parent families than other families had a gross weekly income of £150 or less and 46 per cent had an income of £100 or less.



Although the average size of families fell to 2.44, Pakistani and Bangladeshi households were about twice as large as white households. Indian families averaged 3.65 persons and black Caribbeans 2.68.

Forty-six per cent of Pakistani and Bangladeshi children were under 16, compared to 29 per cent of the black Caribbeans, 30 per cent of the Indians and 21 per cent of the white population.

The study of 18,492 people in 9,800 households in the year to March 1994 found that 19 per cent of single, widowed, divorced or separated women were co-habiting. Almost 33 per cent of unmarried men and women in their late twenties or thirties were cohabiting.

Despite these figures, more people were living alone, according to the survey. The proportion rose from 9 per cent to 14 per cent in the 20 years to 1993, when it showed signs of stabilising.

The number of people aged 16-24 living alone increased from 2 to 4 per cent, 25-44 from 2 to 8 per cent, 45-64 from 8 to 11 per cent, and 65-74 from 26 to 28 per cent. The biggest increase, from 40 to 50 per cent, was among the over-75s.

☐ The proportion of adults with no natural teeth fell from 26 to 16 per cent between 1983 and 1993, with more than half those surveyed saying they visited their dentist regularly. Those with their own teeth were more likely to be male and living in the South of England.

There was little change in the number of people wearing glasses or contact lenses from 1977 to 1993. Sixty per cent of men and 69 per cent of women wore glasses or contact lenses.

☐ *General Household Survey 1993*. (Office of Population Censuses and Surveys, Stationery Office: £18.95)



Not only has the "family" — mother, father and the children — fallen in numbers over 20 years, it has also shrunk

Graduate total soars in 20 years

By Marianne Curphey

THE number of people educated to degree level in Britain has more than doubled in the past 20 years, from 4 to 9 per cent of the population.

The number of people gaining grades A-C at GCSE or O level rose in the 1980s from 13 to 22 per cent. It has remained relatively unchanged since. Since 1975, the number of people with A levels has risen from 4 to 12 per cent.

Young people are more likely than older people to have qualifications: 87 per cent of 20 to 29-year-olds had a qualification in 1993, compared with 40 per cent of the 60-69 age group. Overall, men were better qualified than women, especially among the over-50s, although no difference was evident between those aged under 30.

☐ The proportion of households burgled rose from 3.5 per cent in 1991 to 4.6 per cent in 1993. The average value of goods stolen was £830. Yorkshire and Humberside had the highest rate while Wales had the lowest.

☐ Male employment among over-16s fell from 79 to 62 per cent between 1975 and 1993. Professional men, employers and managers were less likely to be unemployed than manual unskilled workers. Employment among married mothers increased from 52 to 63 per cent between 1977 and 1993 but the proportion of single mothers who worked fell from 48 to 42 per cent.

☐ Twice as many households had a telephone and central heating compared with 20 years ago.

Swimming and keep-fit set the pace

By Our Home Correspondent

SWIMMING, cycling, keep-fit and yoga have become more popular leisure activities in the past decade as the sporting life grips Britain.

There was a big growth in home leisure activities, such as listening to music, from 1990-1993 and book-reading increased from 62 to 65 per cent. But there was a decline in dressmaking and knitting.

Almost two thirds of adults claimed to have taken part in sport or physical exercise in the month before being interviewed. The proportion taking part in keep-fit and yoga rose from 8.6 to 12.1 per cent, and swimming, weight-training and golf also increased in popularity. Fewer went running or played badminton, squash, snooker, billiards or darts.

Men were more likely than women to have participated in at least one sporting activity in the four weeks before the interviews. Almost 75 per cent of men claimed to have taken part in at least one sport in that period, compared with 57 per cent of women.

Sport was more popular among people who were in work and among those in non-manual occupations. The study shows that 82 per cent of professional men and 72 per cent of professional women said that they had taken part in sport in the previous four weeks, compared with 60 per cent of unskilled men and 40 per cent of unskilled women.

Watching television remained Britain's most popular leisure activity, with 99 per cent of people viewing in the four weeks before being questioned.

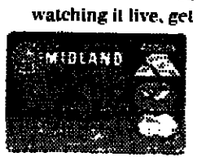
Ninety-six per cent had entertained friends or relatives. Men were more likely than women to listen to the radio, records and tapes, but women were more likely than men to read a book — 70 per cent against 58 per cent. Eighty per cent of professional men and 92 per cent of professional women had read a book in the previous four weeks, compared with unskilled men and women at 57 and 57 per cent respectively.

More men than women had worked in the garden or engaged in do-it-yourself.



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Villagers see more shops and churches close

By Ian Murray
Community Correspondent

MORE and more village shops, post offices and churches are closing, according to a survey published today. The findings, by the Rural Development Commission, will put pressure on the Government to stem the losses when it issues a Rural White Paper later this year.

Of the 8,000 parishes surveyed, 41 per cent have no permanent shop, 43 per cent no post office and 52 per cent no school. More than 90 per cent have no bank, 83 per cent no resident GP, 71 per cent no daily bus service and only 8 per cent have any day-care facilities for the elderly.

Since the last survey, in 1991, 150 shops have closed, mostly in villages with a population of less than 1,000. A similar number of post offices has gone. No village with a population of less than 200 has a newsagent, although 86 per cent can have newspapers delivered.

Only 3 per cent of villages have a street market and 26 per cent have a permanent food shop. However, the fall in the number of shops is offset by a slight increase to 56 per cent in the proportion of villages visited by a mobile shop. The best service is provided by the milkman, who calls at 96 per cent of parishes.

The biggest decrease is in the proportion of parishes served by a resident vicar, down by more than 300 to 41 per cent. In Cornwall the figure is 7 per cent.

Almost no village with a population of less than 500 has a resident GP and visiting surgeries are available in only 15 per cent of parishes. Nine per cent of parishes have a dentist, 5 per cent an optician and 2 per cent a hospital.

The number of keep-fit classes has increased by 5 per cent and bowls clubs by 3 per cent.

Bishop calls for critical study of the Koran's origin and sources

By Ruth Gledhill, Religion Correspondent

BRITAIN'S first Asian diocesan bishop has called for the Koran to be subjected to critical study in the same way as Christian and Jewish scriptures.

The Right Rev Michael Nazir-Ali, Bishop of Rochester, says that Islam in the modern world must be more responsive to change. "An intellectual culture needs to be encouraged that will be critical in its approach to the sources of the faith," he said.

Bishop Nazir-Ali, whose family is Muslim but whose father converted to Christianity, and who holds British and Pakistani citizenship, says in a book published today that a critical approach to the Koran would lead to an historical awareness of Islam. This should lead to an interest in the literary background to the Koran and its forms and sources, he says.

Muslims believe that the Koran, which dates from the 7th century, supersedes the Hebrew Bible and the New Testament and is the last and literal word of God to humans. It was revealed to the prophet Muhammad, an illiterate who memorised it and had it written down by scribes.

Within Islam, the Koran has rarely been subjected to the kind of study applied to the Bible, such as the "form" and "source" criticism that challenged the traditional view that the first five books of the Bible were dictated to Moses by God on Mount Sinai.

DES JENSON



Bishop Michael Nazir-Ali: encouraging dialogue

In *Mission and Dialogue*, Bishop Nazir-Ali says it should be possible "to engage in a literary-historical study of the text of the Koran without compromising the divine revelation which it is seen to mediate".

Bishop Nazir-Ali, 45, who was the Anglican Communion's youngest bishop when elevated to Raiwind in 1984, said yesterday: "I hope there is no controversy over this, but people should not be afraid to say things just because there might be.

"Muslims who have tried to do this have got into trouble often. One scholar who tried it in Pakistan about 25 years ago lost his job as a result, although he became more conservative as a result of his critical work."

He said the problem with Salman Rushdie's *The Satanic Verses*, which was regarded by Muslims as blasphemous and led to a death sentence being pronounced on him by Ayatollah Khomeini, was not that it used the critical method in a work of fiction, but that it was polemical.

Bishop Nazir-Ali said: "I am not saying anything in a polemical way, but in a way to encourage dialogue."

A spokesman for the Muslim Institute said: "Individuals or groups looking at the subject critically are not a problem. Where we have a problem, and what created the problem with Salman Rushdie, is where insult is addressed against Islam and the prophet Muhammad. Anyone who is not a Muslim will not believe in the prophet Muhammad being the prophet of God."

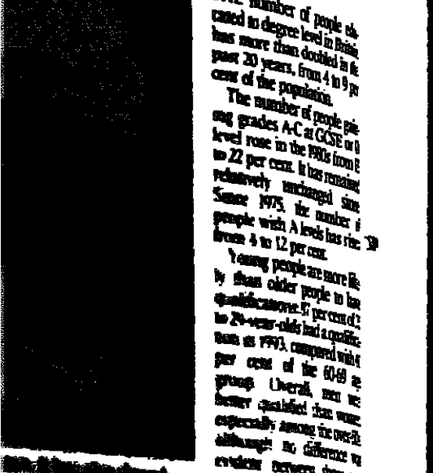
Iqbal Sacranie, of the UK Action Committee on Islamic Affairs, said the book would need further study.

☐ *Mission and Dialogue*, (SPCK: £8.99)

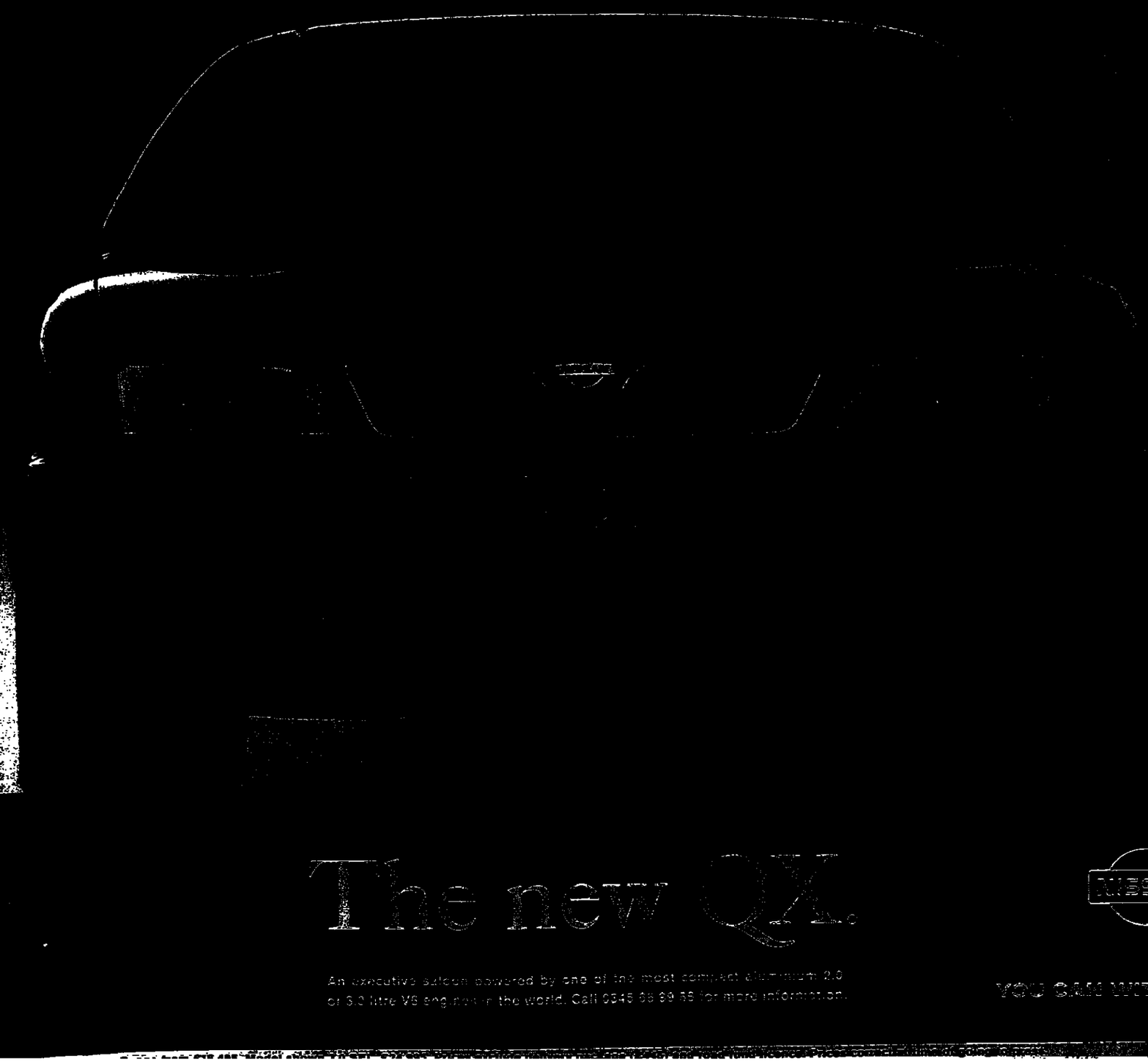
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Clarke pressed to wound Labour with £10bn tax cuts

BY JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

SENIOR Tory backbenchers are urging Kenneth Clarke to implement a £10 billion package of tax cuts phased in over the next three years.

At a meeting on Tuesday the Tory backbench finance committee will press the Chancellor to use the next Budget to pledge a 5p cut in the basic rate of tax.

The MPs favour putting Labour on the spot by means of a phased programme, which would run into the next Parliament. They argue that Tony Blair, the Labour leader, would then go into the next general election faced with the dilemma of whether or not he would repeal the tax cuts. The plan would also enable the Tories to reassert themselves as the tax-cutting party.

The idea, which is backed by several ministers, would be to announce a staged reduction in tax starting in April 1996. The most favoured option is a programme to reduce the basic rate to 20p in the pound by 1998. Mr Clarke could announce a 1p cut from next April then further cuts of 2p each in the following two years, reducing the tax burden by nearly £10 billion.

MPs on the predominantly right-wing committee argue that the Chancellor will have at least £5 billion extra through economic growth and could find another £5 billion through public spending cuts.

Two other options are expected to be put to Mr Clarke on Tuesday: a one off reduction of the basic tax rate to 23p from next April with an extension of the 20p band; or a significant increase in personal allowances to take large numbers out of tax altogether.

Senior members of the backbench finance committee argue that Mr Clarke should do whatever possible to court middle England voters, the group that Labour is also working hard to attract. MPs feel that Labour is winning the argument over excessive pay awards to top directors and that any tax package should favour less well-off groups.

"Labour is hitting home with its campaign on share options and other tax perks for the wealthy," said one committee member.

The MPs will also press Mr Clarke to take a much tougher approach to public spending, as part of a "war on waste". They will argue for a real terms cut in local government spending, with town halls given 2.5 to 3 per cent extra rather than than the 3.5 per cent estimated for inflation.

John Townend, chairman of the Tory finance committee, called last week for a "crusade against waste, overmanning and extravagance in the public sector". Mr Townend said that the public sector should emulate the private sector during the recession, when it became leaner and fitter.

Women charmed by Blair's new party

BY ALICE THOMSON, POLITICAL REPORTER

LABOUR set out yesterday to woo a new kind of woman voter with the aid of Tony Blair's smile, expensive mineral water and little black suits.

More than 300 people turned up to a conference entitled "What Labour will do for Women" to listen to luminaries including the Labour leader, Clare Short MP, the comedienne Jo Brand, Helena Kennedy QC and Glenys Kinnock MEP extolling the virtues of the new party for middle-class values.

Once Labour women would have come on buses with aubergine hair, having left the lentils stewing in the oven and changed their babies nappies in the aisle. These women had left their babies at home with the au pair, were nipping back to the office at lunchtime and were going past M & S to pick up some polenta on their way home.

The event was organised by *She*, the magazine for thirtysomething women who are trying to balance a career and children with finding the perfect white shirt.

Mr Blair fell over himself to charm rows of lip-glossed chattering-class women. They clapped as he told them that a stable and well-balanced family with two parents was preferable to single mothers and that children needed to be taught basic moral values, social discipline and a sense of responsibility.

Where old-style Labour women would have been discussing whether the family was necessary at all, the biggest cheers from this audience went to the agony aunt Claire Rayner, who talked of families being like seeds that needed plenty of watering and Labour attention so they could put down roots.

The only two Tory MPs brave enough to face the rows of new blue Labour suits were Lady Olga Maitland and David Mellor. Lady Olga, wearing a cream bouclé suit, should have gone down perfectly but she was almost hissed off the stage.

Although these new Labour women believe in family values and laws against noisy neighbours, they are very different from their Tory counterparts. They would not be seen dead at fundraising bridge parties or pounding the streets in sensible shoes to sell pots of jam. Most had given up on the Tories. What they wanted from Labour was better nursery care and education and equal pay and they were all prepared to suffer higher taxes to get it.

Mr Mellor, looking distinctly uncomfortable fielding questions on the family, did not bother to defend men. He had done his homework and could reel off statistics about hard-done women. But most of the women were already hooked on Mr Blair. Rachel Robertson, a former Tory voter, said: "I wouldn't have voted for John Smith but Mr Blair is young, attractive and knows how to brush his hair. He epitomises true middle-class values in a way the Tories have forgotten."

Only Margaret Picter, a stylist in advertising photography, was unimpressed. "I wish he hadn't been so patronising and just talked about the family. Most women now can assimilate economic statistics as easily as they can wash nappies."



Politics aside: Labour MP Clare Short and former Tory minister David Mellor speaking up for women yesterday

Men hang on to Whitehall power

BY NIGEL WILLIAMSON, WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT

WOMEN remain virtually invisible in the higher ranks of the Civil Service, despite the celebration yesterday of ten years of the Government's equal opportunities programme.

Over the past year the number of women in the top six grades increased by only one, to 1,147. Sir Robin Butler, Cabinet secretary and head of the home Civil Service, said the figures had to be seen against a decline in the total number of senior officers. Over the same period, the number of men in those grades had fallen by 300.

The figures were released yesterday as Britain's most senior women civil servants gathered in the Cabinet Office to mark the anniversay of the Government's programme. David Hunt, the Civil Service minister, admitted: "There are no grounds for complacency. There is still a long way to go." He claimed, however, that the Civil Service was making progress and that it had a better equal opportunities record than the private sector.

Sir Robin said that having less than 10 per cent of posts in the top three grades held by women was not good enough, although the figure did represent progress. Ten years ago the figure was below 5 per cent. John Major wants the figure to reach 15 per cent by 2000. Throughout the Civil Service women represent just over half of all employees. At the first management level of executive officer, women fill 47 per cent of posts, compared with 29 per cent in 1984.

But there are few women at the top. There are just two civil servants at permanent secretary level: Valerie Strachan, chairman of the board of Customs and Excise, and Barbara Mills, the Director of Public Prosecutions. There is no woman running a major Whitehall department. In the Diplomatic Service there are only three women ambassadors.

Over the past year the number of women serving as deputy secretaries decreased from ten to nine. At under-secretary level there was an increase from 46 to 48.

Women deputy secretaries with hopes of promotion to permanent secretary include Genie Turton, 49, head of the Citizen's Charter Unit, Dinah Nichols, 51, in charge of housing construction at the Department of Environment, and Jenny Bacon, 49, deputy policy director at the Health and Safety Executive.

The First Division Association of senior civil servants said that the advancement of women in the service was still "painfully slow".

Shephard refuses to finance teachers' rise

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

GILLIAN SHEPHARD defied Tory calls yesterday to help education authorities to pay for teachers' rises. She insisted that councils could provide the money by cutting bureaucracy.

The Education Secretary said the Government accepted that the 2.7 per cent pay increase recommended in January should be implemented in full but it would not offer extra money. She took a hard line in the face of criticism from several Tory MPs who claim that the rise for 470,000 teachers can be paid for only by closing schools or shedding staff.

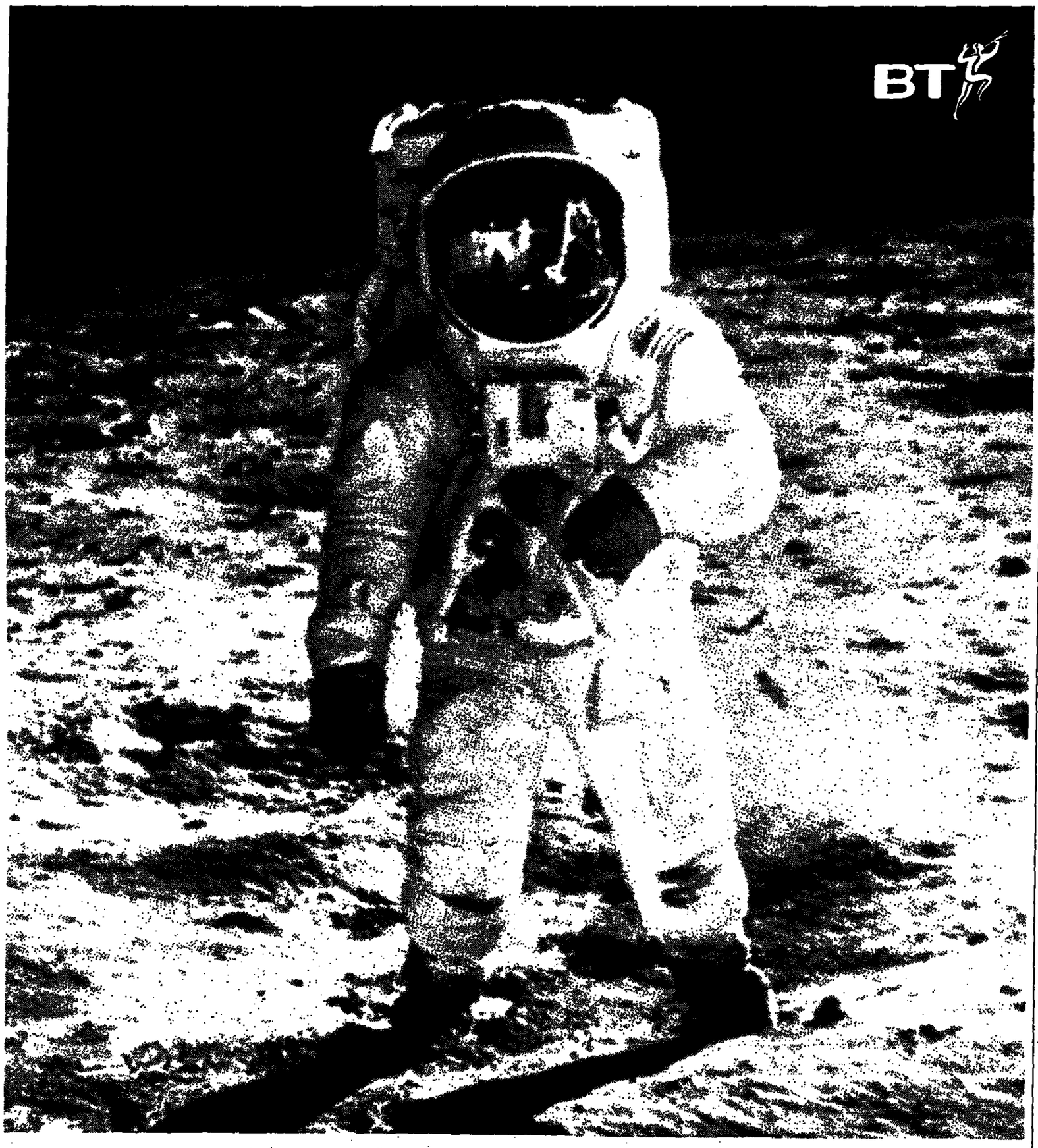
Former Tory education ministers, including Robert Jackson (Wantage) and Alan Howarth (Stratford-on-Avon), have voiced fears over the difficulties facing education authorities over the pay deal, which will cost £270 million.

Mrs Shephard was spared backbench criticism during debate on a Labour motion calling on the Government to provide extra resources to help authorities to meet the pay award. David Blunkett, Shadow Education Secretary, challenged Tories to force ministers to spend money on services rather than tax cuts.

IN PARLIAMENT

YESTERDAY In the Commons: morning debates on domestic violence, the future of Guy's Hospital, the West Coast main line and climate change. At 2.30pm questions Foreign Office ministers were followed by a Labour debate on "the impact of education cuts on standards and opportunity". In the Lords: debates on the economy and on the Human Rights Bill.

TODAY: questions to Treasury ministers and the Prime Minister; debates on Contracting Out (Functions in Relation to the Registration of Companies) Order, the local government finance special grant report and tourism. In the Lords: debates on the Health Authorities Bill and the EU decision to open up the Irish Box to



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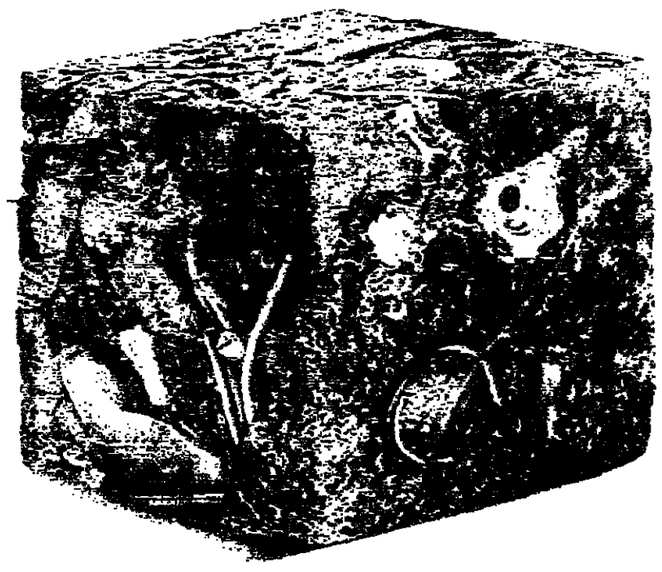
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THE INSIDE STORY.

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Then came the doors, already meeting the side-impact standards required by the United States in 1997. The new Civic even has a C-frame roll-bar around its hatch. A new form of moulded construction (Honda have applied for a patent) which gives the car greater rigidity.

SMART AS PAINT.

So much for the hardware. Back we go to the paintwork. Paint baths at Honda are different kettles of fish to those of other car manufacturers.

They're built so that car bodies are immersed and rolled through 180° to completely dispel air pockets.

The tanks themselves are out-of-the-ordinary too. They're small. They fit around the car snugly, so that the electrolytic charge which bonds paint to metal is as even as can be. And the more even the charge, the better the bond.

THE BUILDING BLOCKS.

Prior to the painting, there's the putting together. Honda actually build the robots that do the building at Swindon. And one of them in particular, is something that other motor manufacturers would give their eye-teeth for.

It's called a General Welder. (One boss of a rival company even wanted his picture taken next to it, the sad man.)

The General is a mammoth robot, looking like something out of a sci-fi movie.

It makes no less than 300 welds on the new Civic's body in less than 10 seconds.

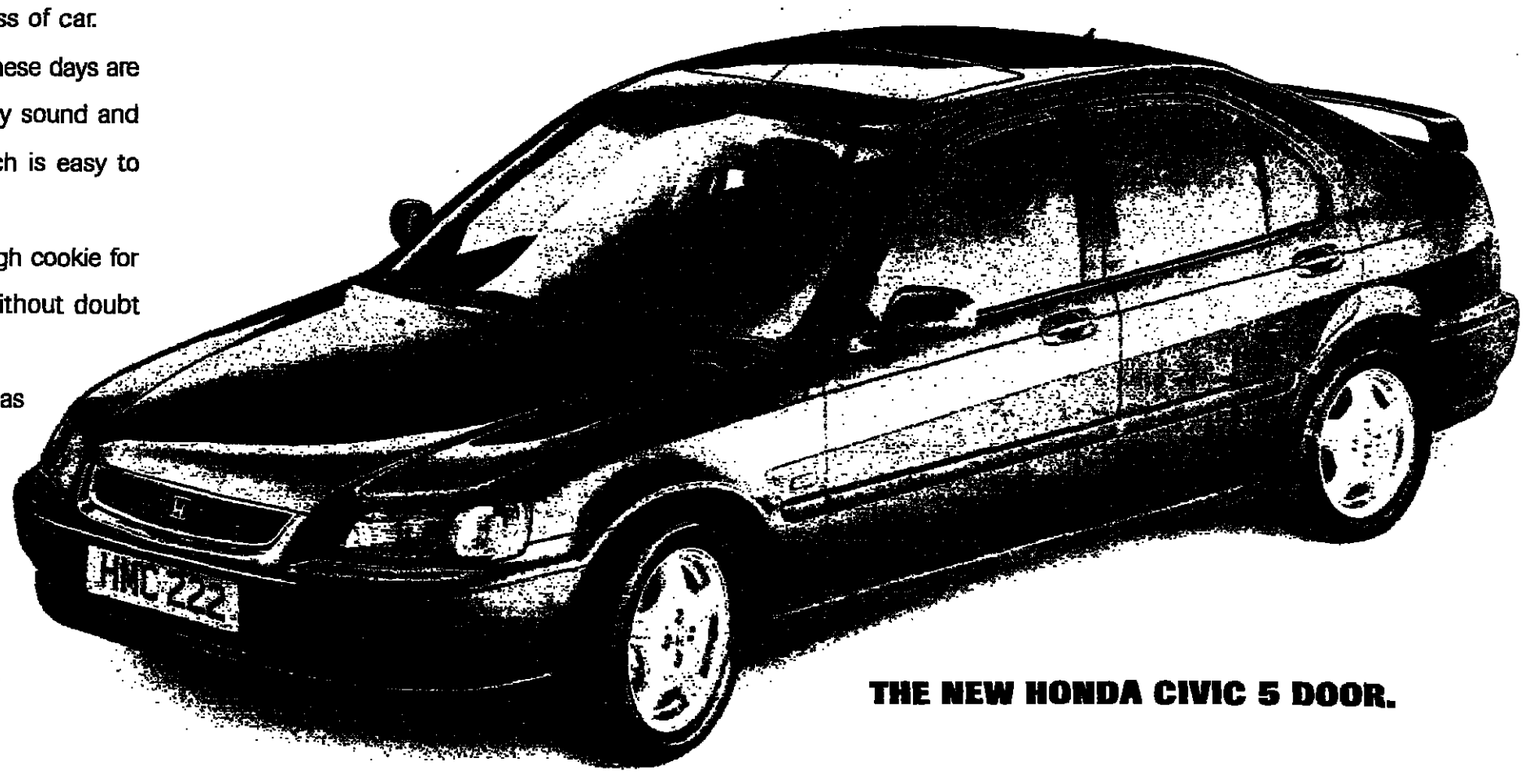
Each weld is as solid as a rock and perfectly, but perfectly aligned.

Honda engineers call this 'Repeatability of Reliability' and it's something they're very, very proud of.

What next? Well, that's it. We're back at the very beginning. Back to the metal, the wood, the plastic and the rubber. Back to the basics that all cars are made of.

Such a pity they don't all end up (this is where we came in) like the new Honda Civic 5 door.

THE STORY OF THE NEW HONDA CIVIC. (FROM END TO BEGINNING.)



THE NEW HONDA CIVIC 5 DOOR.

Major urges farewell to the Little Englander mentality in pursuit of modern global role

Leaders call on nation to end era of retreat

By Michael Binyon, diplomatic editor
Philip Webster, political editor, and James Landale

■ John Major, addressing a conference in Westminster yesterday on Britain's role in the world, called on the nation to look beyond the European Union



John Major prepares to deliver his address to the London conference, with Henry Kissinger, the former US Secretary of State, at his side

TRUMPETING Britain's disproportionate influence on world diplomacy, culture, global peacekeeping, Third World development and political thought, Henry Kissinger, John Major and the Prince of Wales yesterday joined a galaxy of politicians, diplomats, writers and thinkers in urging Britain to come out of its shell, thrust out its chin and make the most of its assets.

At a conference of more than 700 opinion-formers in Westminster, Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, who conceived the event as a way of starting a national debate, proclaimed that Britain's decline had halted in the 1980s. He decried the "tired clichés" of further retreat, and called for a rediscovery of self-knowledge and self-confidence.

Four themes dominated the day: the need for Britain to maintain a core diplomatic service if it was to hold on to its Security Council seat and continue its world influence; the efficiency of Britain's reorganised armed forces which were among the best qualified in the world for peacekeeping work; the extraordinary influence of the BBC and Britain's cultural outreach, which could be exploited for greater commercial gain; and the importance of targeting foreign aid and tying it to good government by the recipient countries.

In a wide-ranging speech opening the conference John Major declared Britain's continuing support for President Yeltsin's reform efforts in Russia, despite what he called the "huge error" of Chechenia. He said that although the Russians had faced an unenviable problem in the breakaway republic, the response of their military commanders was wrong and brutal.

Mr Major used his speech, on which he had worked for months, to urge Britain to lift its sights beyond the European Union to the wider world. He eschewed the "Little Englander" mentality and said that the domestic debate in Britain had focused far too narrowly on the internal workings of the EU. In remarks that will please the Euro-sceptics, he said that Britain was a nation state in what would continue to be a world of nation states for the foreseeable future. "We are attached to our independence, our sovereignty and our national peculiarities."

He cited Britain's early support for the reforms of Mikhail Gorbachev in the former Soviet Union and continuing support for Mr Yeltsin as an example of the way Britain, though a conservative country, was prepared to take intelligent risks, act quickly and independently.

He said: "We did not hesitate to support the reformers when they came under attack, under both Gorbachev and Yeltsin. And we are not going to change direction now. It may take a generation before Russia has a full range of democratic institutions: more before its people enjoy the standard of living we take for granted in the West. But we shall take the long view."

The Prince of Wales, in a lunchtime speech, insisted that Britain should not be shy about its strengths: high standards of public service, military prowess, independence of thought, voluntary effort, artistic and scientific endevour and "great good humour". But Britain could only set an example of excellence if it believed in itself.

The Prince of Wales said that a mood of introspection had become a loss of morale, not only through what he called "the difficult times" over the past few years but also because of a widespread cynicism about many aspects of British national life. "But in the face of an approach to life which appears only to denigrate, to decry and to destroy, surely it is about time we took pride in the fact that we have so many valuable assets," he said.

"If we denigrate the things in which we excel, if we disregard the humanity, the tolerance and fairness, the sense of justice and of right and wrong, and the suspicion of ideology and dogma, which inform so much of what we do well, we are throwing away things of long and tested value to us as a society. We must not lose those civilising qualities which have stood the test of time and which we can contribute to the benefit of others as well as ourselves."

Henry Kissinger, the former Secretary of State, made clear he had lost none of his faith in Britain, but gave a veiled warning that Britain could not remain America's exclusive partner in a special relationship; that must now be extended to all Europe. Dr Kissinger called for a new North Atlantic free trade area to cement relations with Europe in an age where America, tempted to retreat into isolationism, needed the help and experience of the Europeans to forge policy in an unfamiliar post-Cold War world.

He gave a warning that a Maastricht Europe bent on closer integration would lead to bureacracy and demagoguery dominating government from Poland to Portugal. Throwing his academic weight behind the Government's more sceptical approach, he said the bureaucratic integration of the European Union would not be feasible with 16 or 20 members. "I believe more in a confederate than a federal Europe, where it is easier for Britain to find its place."

Britain's great mistake had been its failure to join and shape the European Economic Community from the start. "If I could design it, I would prefer a non-Maastricht to a Maastricht Europe," he said. What he would not like now would be Gaullist policies pursued by British methods. "That would be a lethal combination."

He did not agree that America must now shift its special relationship to Germany, as some Americans were now arguing. "It is not helpful to Germany and it is not meaningful for the United States. I do not know of any German leader who aspires to such a position."

Dr Kissinger said afterwards that he believed America, like Britain, should also examine its own foreign policy. But defining its national interests was provocative, as Americans always believed that they stood for general interests, universally applied. He said thinking on foreign policy had never been so fragmented as today. And he sharply criticised the Clinton Administration by saying that its policies were purely reactive to events rather based on strategy or experience. America now needed the help of others, especially Britain, to manage an unfamiliar situation in the world. Defending Britain's record, Mr Hurd said that the past 25 years had seen a "pretty good roll call of achievement". The transformation of the British Empire was nearly complete. Britain had taken an irreversible decision to join the European Union, inflation and the trade unions had been curbed, and there was now peace in Northern Ireland.

"Anyone told 25 years ago that we would advance so far would have been amazed and disbelieving ... That is why we need no longer be distracted by those here still arguing for further retreat.

"'Narrower yet and narrower shall her bounds be set,' was their cry. Abandon the seat on the Security Council. Throw in the sponge in the European debate, or confine foreign policy to Europe as if there was no world elsewhere. Sell our embassies and retreat into suburban villas. Run down the armed forces still further. Scrap the Commonwealth.

"We still receive that kind of advice," Mr Hurd said. "But we no longer listen to the tired clichés of the past.

"For the effort which Britain now makes in the world is an effort which Britain can and should sustain and increase. We are not pretending to be grander than we are. I have never been interested in the policy of prestige."

Mr Hurd said foreign policy was the servant of the nation's effort. "We have declared the aims and identified the assets. We now need to rediscover our self-knowledge and self-confidence, we need to build further the wealth and power of Britain to the benefit both of ourselves and of our hopes for a more decent world."

An equally rosy view of Britain's strengths was given by Josef Joffe, the foreign editor of the *Süddeutsche Zeitung*. He praised Britain for its long history of democracy, and said the country now stood at the beginning of a democratic process triumphant in all of Europe and spreading to more parts of the world. Britain stood for values that were "tested, timely and compelling" — a free market, free trade, organic rather than imposed integration, the primacy of the democratic sovereign over bureaucratic rule, an Atlantic rather than Continental defence and the widening rather than tightening of Europe.

Herr Joffe, urging Britain to throw off its gloom and self-doubt, said there was no "Continental monolith" out there. Britain should use diplomacy rather than sulking or bullying to achieve its ends. But to be a key player, Britain should stay in the European game.

"There is no exit. It is a game of persuasion and bargaining, of coalition-building and trade-offs."

The Royal Institute of International Affairs, the organisers, had intended a no-holds-barred session where criticism would be voiced by officials as freely as morale-boosting facts. In the event, criticism was muted and the "feel-good factor" was underlined. The main question participants, and the Foreign Office, now want to know is whether the conference will have any echo, or whether the cacophony of opinions died away when the conference ended in the evening.

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Leading article, page 19



The Prince of Wales after his speech yesterday

Puttnam calls for university role

By James Landale
Political Reporter

CULTURE

BRITAIN should become the "university of the world", leading the way in teaching English to billions of people, Sir David Puttnam said yesterday.

The veteran film-maker said private and public money should come together with the BBC World Service and the British Council to exploit Britain's best creative talents in cornering the international education market.

"We will never be the world's factory again, but we could be the world's university," he said. "One country will corner the market and it will be an English-language country. I want it to be us."

Sir David, who created *Chariots of Fire* and *The Killing Fields*, told a side meeting of yesterday's Britain in the World conference that the global education industry was expanding rapidly and could soon overtake the entertainment business if it was organised commercially.

With the Open University, hundreds of British Council offices around the globe and the World Service, Britain already had the infrastructure to lead the market. His call was echoed around the conference hall as speakers urged Britain to promote its language and cultural assets to the full.

Colonel John Blashford-Snell, the explorer, who said he had listened to steam radio in some of the steamier parts of the world, called on the World Service to simplify the way that it teaches English.

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Speakers dance around key issue

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

The conference yesterday was more than just a grandiose exercise in mutual admiration and networking for the foreign policy, business, political and media establishment, although there was plenty of that.

At one level, it was a skilful exercise in self-justification and defence by Douglas Hurd on behalf of the Foreign Office. The Foreign Office at present is undergoing a fundamental expenditure review by the Treasury in which all its main functions are being examined. Mr Hurd is keen to show how much his department still has to do and how much it is appreciated by the Great and the Good, not only in Britain but also throughout the rest of the world.

There was no hint yesterday of stories about diplomatic extravagance overseas. The conference was in one sense aimed at the absent Kenneth Clarke, although some Treasury officials were present. Anyway, the Foreign Office looks likely to win its battle over the fundamental review.

At a public level, the day provided an opportunity for a redefinition of what Britain's role should be. Nobody disputes the general aims. Mr Hurd and Robin Cook, the Shadow Foreign Secretary, offered virtually identical broad objectives. Mr Hurd talked of making Britain more prosperous, more influential and of contributing to a safer and more decent international order, while Mr Cook said that he aimed to make Britain more prosperous, safe and respected. Even beyond that level of generality, their differences were more of style and of detail, over the balance of the overseas aid programme.

The trouble in a way was how government speakers, starting with the Prime Minister in his opening address, tended to dance around the central question of Britain's relations with the European Union. Other issues are important and interesting but, as Mr Cook pointed out, "we will not build a sound global strategy if we neglect its European foundation". Some of the non-politicians, such as Peter Bonfield, of ICL, did argue that Britain must "be serious about being at the heart of Europe". The Tories' internal divisions over Europe undermine its attempt to play a stronger role in Europe and the world.

John Major raised some pertinent long-term questions about the future of the United Nations, the transatlantic relationship, relations with Central and Eastern Europe, problems of terrorism and crime, tackling world poverty and the Commonwealth. But, unfortunately, there were few answers. For instance, he talked about the first stirrings of a debate about a new transatlantic community, to promote closer ties between Europe and America. It is, as he said, "a worthy aspiration, but how should it be developed?" There are few signs in Washington of any desire to turn those proposals into substance, as Mr Major will no doubt find out on his visit there next week.

Many worthy, sensible and occasionally unexpected suggestions were made by participants. The farther the discussion moved from conventional diplomatic and strategic questions to education, culture and British values, the more interesting it became. It was a pity in a way that the discussion was so broad and not focused on the more concrete area of Mr Hurd's earlier speech about promoting Britain's values around the world. That is where the participants could, and did, make a distinctive contribution. The English language is an enormous asset which Britain can and should exploit via institutions such as the BBC World Service and the British Council as well as through the flood of foreign students into Britain and English-language teaching overseas.

Mr Hurd is right that Britain has major assets and strengths which it can use throughout the world. But the European question cannot be avoided for long.

Peter Riddell

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Farmers used by gangs to defraud EU of £800m

BY MICHAEL DYNES

THE European Union was defrauded of more than £800 million last year, much of it by organised crime syndicates, the European Commission said yesterday.

The losses, which were more than double the ammount in 1993, represent only the "tip of the iceberg" because many went undetected, Anita Gradin, the head of the Commission's anti-fraud unit, said.

Almost half the detected crimes were committed in the EU's agricultural sector, which accounts for about half the Union's annual £62 billion budget. Syndicates were able to choose their targets with impunity, the Commission's annual fraud report said.

"Fraudsters can almost select, à la carte, which EU legislation suits them best," Mrs Gradin said. "We just don't know if even larger amounts ended up in the wrong pockets."

Per Brix Knudsen, the Danish head of the anti-fraud unit, said that improved detection rates partly explained the increased losses. Increased activity by mafia-style syndicates played a role. "There is no doubt that there has been increased interest by organised crime in the potential to commit fraud against the EU budget," he added.

The biggest fraud concerned export subsidies for cereals and beef to bring EU prices down to world levels, payments for the storage of cereals, and support for olive oil, the report said.

Commission figures showed that Italy topped the fraud league, with more than $740 million (£462 million) lost to fraudsters. Greece came a distant second with $114 million, followed by Spain with $109 million.

The report also showed that that the amounts recovered were "unacceptably low". Italy, for example, had only clawed back $7.9 million out of the $500 million lost in agricultural fraud.

Recovering funds is mainly the responsibility of national governments, which collect tax income and import levies and also control how EU money is spent locally. "The situation in the area of recovery is not satisfactory," the anti-fraud unit said. "The Commission will, of course, undertake efforts to improve the control, but it is an area where member states have to take their own responsibilities."

Despite attempts to strengthen the Commission's anti-fraud unit, which now has 120 investigators, the recovery of funds remains dismal. Of all the frauds discovered in the first six months of last year, only 4 per cent of the money has been recovered. Moreover, no EU member has managed to recover more than 40 per cent of funds obtained fraudulently. The Commission does have the power to take action against cross-border fraud. But the main responsibility lies with national governments.

Mrs Gradin called on national administrations to increase the detection of fraud and to adopt EU-wide sanctions to regain public confidence. "The taxpayers of the European Union have to be assured that their money is not spent in a fraudulent way," she said.

She gave a warning that payments to EU countries could be frozen if significant efforts to improve the recovery rate were not made. "That is one way of doing it," she said. France, which holds the EU's six-month rotating presidency, is committed to getting agreement on fines and prison sentences for fraud.

Proposals for a new anti-fraud convention, which would lay down a common definition of fraud and uniform sanctions against fraudsters, are due to be completed before the end of the French presidency in June. There are more than 70 definitions of fraud among the EU states.

Earlier this year, the Commission threatened Greece with one of the biggest financial penalties ever handed down to force Athens to tackle the misuse of cotton subsidies. It faces a £428 million fine unless it prevents Greek farmers from filing false claims for production.



Helmut Kohl, right, applauds as Ernst Jünger is congratulated by a bandleader in Saulgau, near his home

Centenarian thinker honoured by Kohl

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

ERNST JÜNGER, Germany's most controversial thinker, whose texts include a glorification of war and an attack on the Jews, from which he later distanced himself, was yesterday given a 100th birthday surprise when Helmut Kohl, the Chancellor, and President Herzog arrived at his home in a remote south German village. Other prominent well-wishers included President Mitterrand, who penned an open letter declaring: "This is a free man ... this philosopher has a lust for life that has not been dulled by time." Over the years, Herr Jünger has become accustomed to admiration — Hitler once expressed a strong interest in meeting him, but never turned up — and his many works have drifted in and out of fashion. He is regarded as a nationalist and conservative who displays cool detachment from the modern age and totalitarian rule. He has published some 60 novels, travel books, essay collections and diaries.

Chirac named in housing scandal

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS

OPPONENTS pounced on Jacques Chirac, the French presidential front-runner, yesterday after a disclosure that he rented a luxurious Paris flat for a fraction of the market rate from a firm which runs some of the city's council housing.

In the latest sleaze allegation to taint one of the leading candidates, M Chirac, who is Mayor of Paris, was said by the *Canard Enchaîné* weekly to have organised the purchase of the flat by the SGIM company in 1990 for 12 million francs (£1.5 million). He continued to rent the 190 square metre flat, the ground floor of a villa on the Left Bank, for less than a third of its value.

M Chirac denied that he had been involved in the sale of the property, which he has occupied since 1977. However, word of his low rent and the involvement of a company partly owned by the city and the Rothschild family was potentially explosive given M Chirac's drive to depict himself as the candidate with a social conscience and defender of the homeless.

Last week, the media reported on a heavy profit made by M Chirac's wife, Bernadette, in another property deal.

Right's vision for Europe leaves Tories isolated

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS

THE isolation of British Conservatives among their allies in Europe was brutally underlined yesterday by Christian Democrat calls for the EU to unite more closely next year.

Opening speeches at a large gathering of MPs and MEPs from right-of-centre parties across Europe emphasised that the EU's 1996 intergovernmental conference to review the Maastricht treaty should mark an historic move towards deeper union. An early version of the manifesto to be sent to the 1996 negotiations between governments by the Christian Democrat bloc in the European Parliament calls for Europe-wide criminal law, majority voting on all but a few EU decisions, and power for Brussels to raise its own taxes.

Two Conservative MEPs sitting on the committee writing the document seem certain to be outvoted on many of the points they are trying to change. The final version of the paper will be agreed in November. Although MEPs are famous for making extravagant demands for giant leaps towards a federal Europe, the Parliament will be a more powerful player than in the past as the next round of negotiations over the treaty unfolds. Tory MEPs in the European Parliament are allied to the Christian Democrats but are regularly embarrassed by differences over federalism.



Hanley: speech avoided every sensitive issue

The draft document currently opens with the declaration: "The European Union points the way to a united Europe. Our objective is a European federation ..." The paper was produced by a group of about 20 MEPs.

Delegates listened politely to a speech by Jeremy Hanley, the Conservative Party chairman, which avoided every sensitive issue on the agenda. He said that if next year's treaty conference was to be a success, "it cannot afford to be too abstract or over-ambitious. Our theme must be of effectiveness and implementing what we have agreed, not some giant leap forward."

War booty row over Russian exhibition

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S Hermitage museum yesterday became the scene of an undignified custody battle as rival claimants fought over a collection of predominantly Impressionist art, looted by Soviet troops in Germany half a century ago.

An exhibition, which opens today at the gallery in St Petersburg, contains 74 paintings, including works by Picasso, Van Gogh, Renoir, Cézanne, Gauguin and Manet, part of a haul of art seized by Red Army brigades in 1945.

The artistic merits of the *Hidden Treasures Revealed* exhibition were eclipsed as the Russian authorities fended off allegations that they were trying to legalise the war booty.

Daniele Brabner-Smith, the daughter of Friedrich Siemens, the late German industrialist and private art collector, said that two pictures in the Hermitage were among 11 masterpieces stolen from their home in Germany.

German officials insist that Russia is obliged under The Hague conventions and a 1991 agreement to return all stolen property. The current exhibition has only a tenth of the stolen works in the Hermitage. The Pushkin Museum in Moscow has another 400.

Geese destroy Arctic wetlands as climate shift boosts flocks

BY NICK NUTTALL ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

GEESE populations on the edge of the Arctic are booming, causing widespread devastation by turning lush sedge meadows and wetlands into lifeless mudflats, researchers said yesterday.

British and Canadian scientists are linking the boom to climate changes, which in some areas are causing ice to melt earlier than normal, allowing the geese to grub out the roots of grasses and other plants, or breed earlier.

A decline in hunting and changes in agricultural practices in the birds' staging posts and wintering homes of Canada, Europe and the United States are also providing food reserves. Recent milder winters in some countries may also be adding to the surge.

The population boom, which is likely to continue for the foreseeable future, threatens the delicate natural balance in one of the world's harshest regions. There is evidence that the salinity of the Hudson Bay area will rise



Snow geese: breeding earlier and devouring more

out, allowing peat to blow away and leaving behind gravel beds.

The damage was detailed by Dr Dawn Bazely, a British scientist based at the University of York in Toronto, who has been studying the geese with Dr Bob Jefferies of the University of Toronto. The findings were disclosed at an Arctic biology conference at the University of Aberdeen.

At lower populations the geese, which include the Brent, lesser snow goose and greater snow goose, fertilise the land with their droppings. But the vast numbers are reversing any benefit.

"If you look at the greater snow goose, the population has gone from tens of thousands to hundreds of thousands. The lesser snow geese now number more than two million and are increasing at a rate of 8 per cent a year," said Dr Bazely. Some of the land could recover over several hundred years, but parts may be irreparably damaged.

The meeting was told that polar bears living on the edge of the Arctic are losing weight because the ice is melting earlier and freezing later. Polar bears hunt mainly on ice for ringed seals, whose numbers are being reduced by climate changes.

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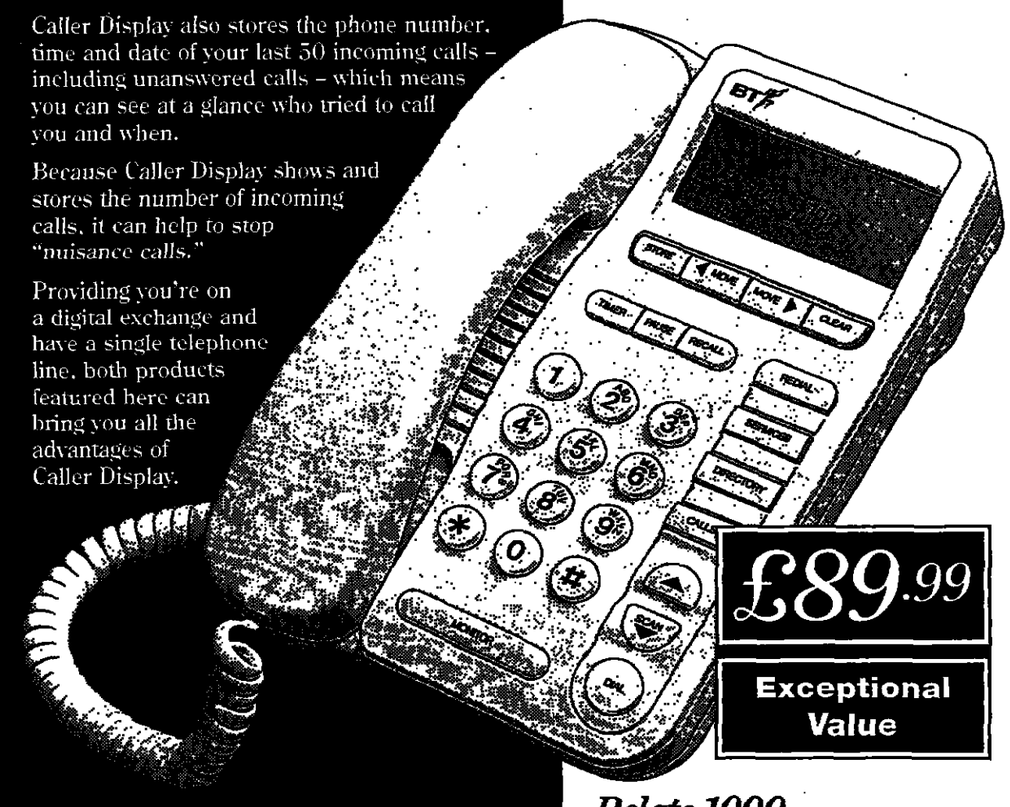
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Hurd plays down Spanish talk of crisis in EU

Britain rejects call for sanctions in fish war

BY GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS AND MICHAEL HORNSBY

BRITAIN faces a conflict of loyalties at a European Union meeting in Brussels today to consider a Spanish demand for trade sanctions against Canada in the fish dispute off Newfoundland.

Spain gave a warning of a "crisis" in the EU if Britain failed to support sanctions. But a Foreign Office spokesman in London said: "There can be no question of general trade sanctions against Canada and the United Kingdom will vigorously oppose any proposals for such action."

Britain blocked the dispatch of a stiff protest note to Canada by the EU. "We objected to the tone and style of the language used which seemed more likely to inflame relations further at a time when we are trying to negotiate a solution," a British official in Brussels said.

A decision on sanctions is unlikely to be put to a vote at today's meeting, which is at ambassador level. British officials are anyhow confident that other member states, among them Germany, Sweden, Finland and Denmark, will share Britain's reluctance to take action that would be certain to escalate the dispute with Canada.

Javier Elorza, the Spanish ambassador to the EU, yesterday denounced what he saw as a rift in the united position taken so far. He said it would be "very peculiar" if Britain was not prepared to back action against Canada for a clear breach of international law.

"If the UK does not back Spain we will take notice of that, and we will remember", Señor Elorza said. "Canada is not respecting international law. If the UK confirms its attitude, evidently we will have a crisis in the Union, because the UK will be saying ... 'We do not back you defending international law outside 200 miles', and that, I think, is very, very peculiar."

The fish dispute was touched off on March 9 when Canadian patrol vessels seized the Spanish trawler *Estai* on the high seas off Newfoundland, outside Canada's 200-mile zone. The Canadians allege that the Spanish vessel was fishing for Greenland halibut with a net mesh size much smaller than the 130mm limit set by the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organisation.

Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, declined to respond directly to Señor Elorza's remarks, opting instead for the role of honest broker. "Here is an area in the North Atlantic which has been grossly overfished by everybody," he said. "What is needed is an agreement on the number of fish which can be caught and on the share-out. Once there is agreement on that, we need enforcement so that people do not cheat. While talks are going on ... the Spaniards should not fish in waters which are sensitive and the Canadians should not take action."

Britain believes that Spain is overplaying its hand if it imagines that the rest of the Union is eager to rush into a trade war with Canada, which is due to host the next G7 economic summit in Halifax in June.

Talks continued in Brussels yesterday between EU and Canadian officials on improving fishery controls in the north Atlantic, including better enforcement of net mesh sizes, satellite tracking of vessels, dock-side inspection of all boats, on-board observers and punishment of offenders.

Britain shares Canada's view that Spain should have no objection to observers being stationed on boats to check catches and nets. "If they are not cheating, they should not mind an observer on each ship," one official said.

Letters, page 15



Filipino soldiers inspect preserved marine turtles on a trawler at Palawan island after 62 Chinese fishermen were arrested off the disputed Spratly Islands. Four trawlers were seized, which allegedly had supplies of cyanide and hundreds of sticks of dynamite. President Ramos of the Philippines yesterday urged other nations to denounce their "destructive" activities in the South China Sea. The Chinese have been charged with illegal fishing and illegal possession of explosives. Peking, which said the men were in Chinese territorial waters, demanded that they be released. Mr Ramos said the men's activities had been "in clear violation ... of the international laws of the sea and the environment". *(AP)*

Chinese trawlers seized

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WORLD SUMMARY

Minister quits over tax revolt

Athens: Stelios Papathemelis, the Greek Public Order Minister, resigned yesterday apparently over an ongoing farmers' revolt. Sources said Mr Papathemelis disagreed with government plans to use riot police to clear national highways blocked for the past ten days by thousands of farmers who are protesting against proposed tax increases.

The farmers have set up ten major blockades and driven hundreds of tractors on to main highways and rail links and cut off Athens from the northern port of Salonika. The farmers' action has sent vegetable prices soaring and disrupted petrol supplies. *(Reuter)*

Africa fights to halt cattle killer

Rome: The UN Food and Agriculture Organisation has begun an emergency programme to fight bovine pleuro-pneumonia, a contagious disease that has killed 15,000 cattle in Tanzania and is threatening to spread to Zambia, Malawi and the rest of southern Africa. The organisation said that the disease, which destroys the lungs, was endangering 3 million cattle. Its programme includes vaccinations and restrictions on cattle movements. *(Reuter)*

Deal struck on airport

Hong Kong: Britain and China have reached agreement, after more than a year of wrangling, on the Hong Kong Airport Corporation Bill that could guarantee funding for the $20.3 billion (£12.7 billion) project. The Bill is expected to go before the colony's Legislative Council in early May.

The airport Bill is one of several pieces of legislation that need to be put in place before borrowing for the airport and its rail links can get under way. *(Reuter)*

UN repatriates last Mozambican

Johannesburg: The UN, concluding the largest operation of its kind in Africa, will repatriate the last Mozambican refugees from South Africa tomorrow. The UN High Commissioner for Refugees said 1.7 million Mozambicans had been repatriated from six African nations. *(Reuter)*

Simpson chauffeur evidence dents alibi

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

A SHADOWY figure, dark-skinned and dressed in black, crossed O.J. Simpson's garden and let himself into the former footballer's mansion late on the night Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman died, a witness says.

In testimony that may yet haunt Mr Simpson, Allan Park, a limousine chauffeur, also insisted that no white Ford Bronco was parked outside the mansion when he arrived that night to take the athlete to the airport — a flat contradiction of last month's claim by the defence's only possible alibi witness that the Bronco was parked there at the time of the murders.

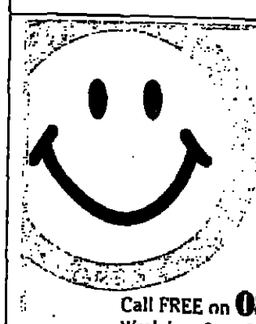
The stolid, neatly dressed Mr Park broke the spell of unreality that has hung over the trial for three weeks when he went into the witness box on Tuesday. That spell was cast when Rosa Lopez, the frequently hysterical alibi witness, was allowed to give evidence about the Bronco out of turn lest she abscond to her native El Salvador.

But most theatrical of all has been the evidence of Brian "Kato" Kaelin, an aspiring actor and former long-term house guest of Mr Simpson's. Mr Kaelin began his court appearance as a key prosecution witness who could describe the suspect's mood on the evening of the murders and who heard three loud thuds outside his guest house at about the time prosecutors claim Mr Simpson was returning from the murders.

But the long-haired witness's nervous jokes and endless fidgeting — not to mention a half-nude portrait of him in this week's *New Yorker* magazine — made him the talk of America's die-hard O.J.-watchers. Pursued by young girls for autographs and television producers for guest-spots on talk shows, Mr Kaelin eclipsed the slow-burning drama of the trial.

In court, Marcia Clark, the district attorney, accused him of changing and hedging his evidence to avoid incriminating Mr Simpson, and of exploiting the defendant's fame for his own acting career.

Mr Park's evidence brings the prosecution back to a plank of its case: that Mr Simpson's whereabouts are unaccounted for between 9.40 and 10.55pm on the night of the murders, which are alleged to have occured about 10.15pm.



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New Bombay chief issues threat to wipe out Muslims

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

INDIAN Muslims were stunned yesterday by the latest outpourings of Bombay's new extremist Hindu political leaders, who came to power two weeks ago with a fanatical agenda that includes mass expulsions of illegal settlers.

Bal Thackeray, a Hindu zealot and de facto leader of Maharashtra state, of which Bombay is the capital, said Muslims would be "wiped out" if any of them dared even to touch his hair. The warning followed an alleged death threat by telephone.

The outburst brought nationwide expressions of disgust at the growing hate campaign being waged against the one million Muslims in Bombay, which has serious implications for India's delicate religious balance.

Police have started rounding up accused Muslim settlers from Bangladesh and Pakistan, many of whom insist they are Indian citizens.

Since poor people often have no paperwork to prove their origins, they are an easy target. In the hot-house religious atmosphere created in the past fortnight by Mr Thackeray, police know they have virtual carte blanche to arrest Muslims and send them to jail as suspected illegal immigrants. They could wait for years before being tried.

Mr Thackeray, the leader of Shiv Sena, a political party with a private army of 40,000 thugs called Sainiks, set a 15-day deadline for the expulsion of Bangladeshis and Pakistanis. He said the police and his Hindu supporters should jointly launch the operation, and urged Indian Muslims to co-operate, and gave a warning that special passes may be issued to legal residents of Maharashtra to ensure that outsiders were kept out. The moves have been interpreted by Muslims as intended to intimidate them into leaving the state.

Mr Thackeray claimed that both he and Manohar Joshi, the Chief Minister of Maharashtra — a political pawn of Mr Thackeray — had received assassination threats. He declared: "If such an attack took place, then my Shiv Sainiks would wipe them [Muslims] from the entire country. I am giving them such a directive."

It is an Indian tradition not to refer to Muslim or Hindu communities by name in any sensitive context. There has never been any doubt, however, whom Mr Thackeray is talking about when he threatens "a certain community" or "them". Sharad Pawar, the opposition leader in Maharashtra, said Mr Thackeray's statements were directed "at one community" [Muslims] and had created an atmosphere of terror. "A fascist force is coming up," he added. "Bombayites have already paid a price with the bomb blasts" — a reference to a bombing campaign in Bombay, possibly in reprisal for the destruction of a mosque in the northern city of Ayodhya in December 1992 by Hindu extremists.

Mr Thackeray's threats were issued through Shiv Sena's newspaper, *Samna*, which he uses as a personal mouthpiece. If a Bangladeshi or Pakistani dared touch him, "they will be completely ruined", he said.

They would not even be capable of returning to their own country. "In gangrene, you need to cut off the rotten parts, but we are not going to allow another partition of this country. This is crystal clear."

Mr Thackeray, whose party shares power in Maharashtra with the hardline pro-Hindu Bharatiya Janata Party, has told Muslims to stop spilling on to the streets to pray, which, he said, held up traffic.

He has authorised police to enter mosques whenever they suspect illegal immigrants are inside. Such action could spark Hindu-Muslim riots, which would almost inevitably spread to other regions.

Sarfaraz Arzoo, the editor of the Urdu-language daily, *Hindustan*, said Muslims feared police would plant weapons in mosques as an excuse to raid them and make mass arrests.



Thackeray: instructions to his private army

FBI joins hunt for killers of Aristide opponent

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN MIAMI

VIOLENCE is on the rise again in Haiti, only days before President Clinton is due to hand over control of the American-led forces there to the United Nations.

The latest victim, Mireille Durocher Bertin, 38, a lawyer and outspoken supporter of the military regime deposed by American troops last September, was shot as she drove down Martin Luther King Street in the centre of the capital, Port-au-Prince. The attackers, firing from a passing taxi, escaped, according to a Canadian police officer at the scene.

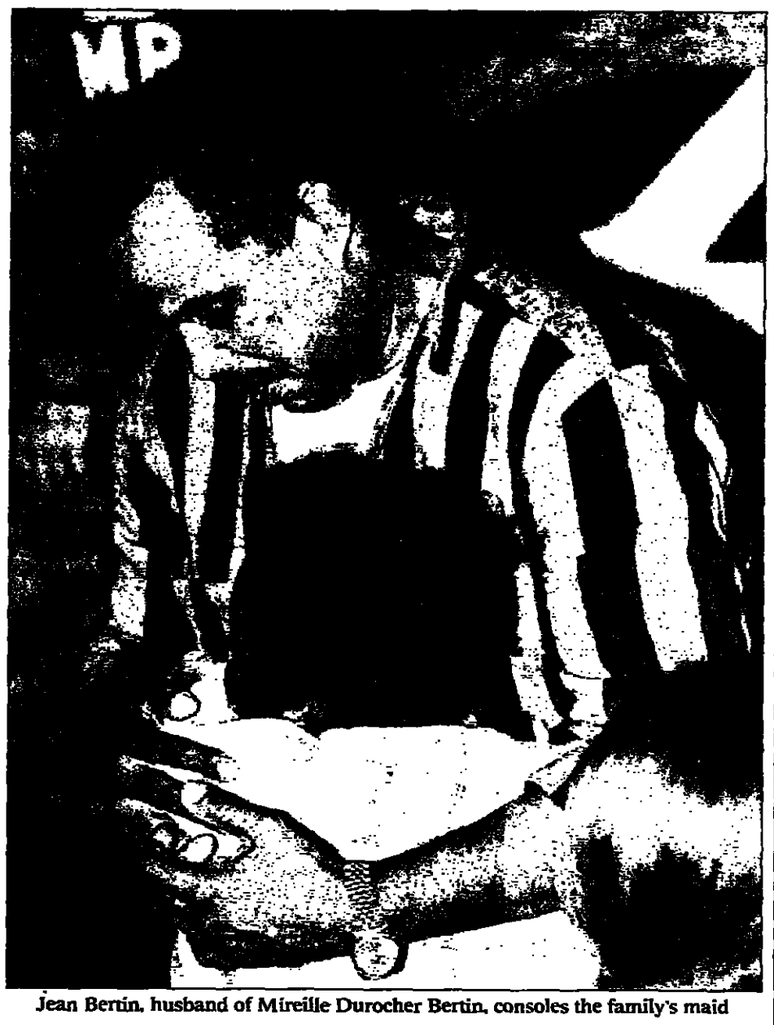
Her murder on Tuesday afternoon has highlighted a mounting wave of crime, denting the image of what has so far been described as a successful joint UN-US effort to build democracy in a country torn by political violence.

Human rights experts say that while the United States restored President Aristide to power, it has failed to ensure enough security for democracy to prosper. American efforts to establish a credible Haitian police force following the US invasion have failed and observers warn that the UN mission is not entering a "safe and secure environment" as required by the Security Council resolution that approved its peacekeeping role in Haiti.

The White House called the attack a "brutal act of violence", and the US Justice Department ordered FBI agents to Haiti yesterday to investigate the killing. But opponents of the US intervention blamed the killing on radical Aristide supporters and the Clinton Administration.

"There is only one person who must take responsibility for her death, and I am speaking of Bill Clinton. He is to blame for all the Haitians killed, assassinated since September 19," said Carl Dennis, a businessman with links to the former military regime. A human rights report published yesterday blamed the current violence on a mistaken US policy of trying to create an interim Haitian police force out of the remnants of the Haitian army, instead of using untainted civilians. Although 300 of the army's worst human rights abusers have been purged, the report said that was "shockingly low" for an army of 7,000 that was notorious for systematic abuses against civilians. In three years of military rule before Mr Aristide's return, an estimated 4,000 civilians were butchered by the Haitian army and police.

A new civilian police force, currently undergoing training at a Canadian-run academy, takes over crime control in March next year.



Jean Bertin, husband of Mireille Durocher Bertin, consoles the family's maid

Three die in Gaza border attack

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

THREE people were killed in the Gaza Strip yesterday after a Palestinian blocked a road with his lorry and opened fire on a police vehicle escorting Jewish settlers near the settlement of Netzarim.

Two Israeli policemen and the Palestinian driver were killed and two other officers wounded after an exchange of gunfire and a collision between the two vehicles.

Israel's Army radio said the driver was angry over not getting a permit to work in Israel, which has banned tens of thousands of Gazans and severely limited vehicle access as a result of the recent spate of suicide bombings by Muslim opponents of the peace process.

The incident deepened the political crisis in Israel. More than 130 Jews have been killed since the peace accord with the Palestine Liberation Organisation was signed 18 months ago. The Likud Party and other right-wing groups have tabled a no confidence motion in the Government.

On Tuesday, hundreds of Palestinians demonstrated at the main Erez crossing point into Gaza over the restrictions. Muhammad Zuhdi al-Nashashibi, the Palestinian Finance Minister, told the crowd: "The Palestinian Authority will not allow Israeli products to enter if Israel continues its siege on the Strip."

☐ **Gaza passports:** Palestinians will start carrying passports for the first time from tomorrow week when the Palestinian Authority in Gaza begins issuing the documents to about 870,000 residents of the self-rule parts of the region and Jericho.

Gingrich faces defeat on Bill to limit terms in Congress

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

NEWT GINGRICH was facing his first big defeat last night as the House of Representatives prepared to vote down one of the most popular planks of his *Contract with America* — a constitutional amendment limiting how long congressmen may serve.

Despite delaying the vote for two weeks, the House Speaker appeared well short of the two-thirds majority he needed for passage of any of the four different versions of "term limits" on offer, and was making strenuous efforts to deflect what looked certain to be considerable public anger. Polls show three-quarters of Americans support term limits. Twenty-two states have passed their term limit laws, though the constitutionality of these laws has yet to be determined.

The Republican promise to limit congressional terms was one the most attractive during last autumn's election campaign, seemingly exemplifying their determination to tear down the old "imperial Congress" that had lost touch with the people, but their enthusiasm for curtailing their careers has waned in office.

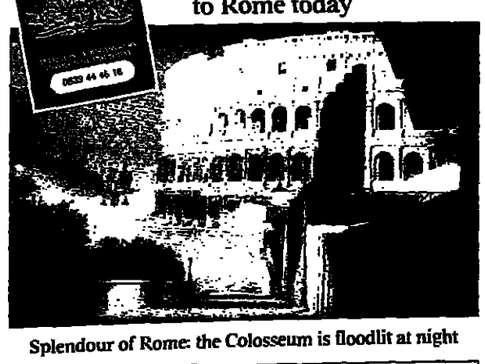
Even before last night's vote, Mr Gingrich was seeking to blame the Democrats for the amendment's defeat, and promising to keep reintroducing it until it passed, but his Republican troops were divided, too. Between 30 and 40 of the 230 House Republicans opposed term limits on principle. The rest were unable to agree whether to limit themselves to six years, 12 years or whatever their home states decreed. There was general agreement that senators should be limited to 12 years.

Term limits was the ninth of the *Contract's* ten Bills to be voted on, and would be the first to be defeated. However, the tenth, promising middle-class and business tax cuts over the next five years, is also in trouble and could be rejected. That would bring the Republican revolution's first 100 days to a less than triumphant conclusion.

THE TIMES

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... you could be flying to Rome today



Splendour of Rome: the Colosseum is floodlit at night

ENTER today's Don't Forget Your Passport competition and you could be taking off later today on a short break to Rome.

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HOW TO ENTER

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1) Who painted the Sistine Chapel ceiling?
2) What is the name of the city within Rome?

The winner will be drawn from all correct answers received by the time the lines close. Normal Times Newspapers competition rules apply. Calls cost 39p a minute cheap rate and 49p at all other times.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Algiers kills 1,300 rebels

Tunis: Members of The Armed Islamic Group (GIA), Algeria's most feared group of Muslim extremists, may have been among 1,300 rebels killed in what appears to be a huge sweep of militant strongholds.

The daily *El Watan*, generally well informed on security issues, quoted what it called reliable sources as saying Djamel Zitouni, the alleged leader of the GIA, may have been killed in the government sweep. *(Reuter)*

Mayor on trial

Grenoble: Jacques Médecin, the former Mayor of Nice, has gone on trial for allegedly swindling the city's opera of two million francs (£250,000) after fleeing to South America four years ago. *(Reuter)*

Korea steps up

Paris: South Korea took another step in its 40-year rise out of poverty by formally applying to join the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, the rich nations' club. *(Reuter)*

Pizza dough

New York: Donald and Ivana Trump, whose acrimonious divorce became an international soap opera, are to get a million dollars each to kiss and make up in a television advertisement for pizza.

Dire strait

Paris: Bad weather forced a French explorer, Emeric Fisset, 33, to abandon a solo attempt to cross the ice-covered Bering Strait with nine huskies from Alaska to Siberia, 40

THE HUNGRY MICROBE

HOW SIMPLE BACTERIA ARE PROVIDING AN ANSWER TO COMPLEX POLLUTION PROBLEMS

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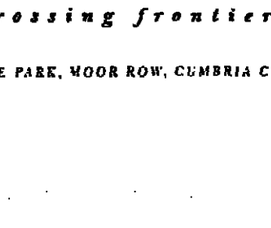
Found everywhere on Earth, bacteria are simple organisms invisible to the naked eye.

Yet these microscopic life-forms are providing a highly effective solution to a massive problem encountered in manufacturing processes.

Namely, how to detoxify industrial effluent by removing traces of heavy metals.

Certain types of bacteria have been found to be naturally tolerant of heavy metals, and can safely "digest" them without any harmful effects.

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Once the hungry microbes have done their work it's a relatively straightforward task to remove them from the waste by using a magnetic field.

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A prominent role in pioneering this breakthrough was played by the Westlakes Research Institute, one of the key components of Westlakes Science Park.

A team led by biotechnologist Professor Derek Ellwood worked closely on the project with experts from Southampton University and European Cancer Prevention.

This weaving together of different strands, academic and commercial, is typical of an approach that has established Westlakes Science Park as a true centre of excellence.

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How a baby's size may indicate heart trouble in later life ☐ Drugs that change the shape of men ☐ Evening primrose oil and hot flushes

The worth of girth at birth



STANDARD comments such as "a chubby little fellow" or "he'll soon put on weight — it's amazing how soon they catch up" are usually better received by a recently delivered mother than the news that the baby's abdominal girth is 31.2 cm.

Few would know that this is the average girth of a baby. Mothers are mainly interested in a baby's weight, but over the years doctors and nurses have also measured length, head circumference and abdominal girth.

Recently a team led by Professor D.J.P. Barker of the MRC Environmental Epidemiology Unit at the University of Southampton has been dusting down old files dating from the 1920s and 1930s, and seeing the relevance of those far-off recordings to the baby's subsequent health as an adult.

The Southampton scientists' research has now been published in the *British Medical Journal*. The statistics suggest that there is a correlation between the size of a baby's liver, its abdominal girth and the likelihood of developing coronary heart disease. The Southampton report suggests that the variations in the abdominal circumference between different babies is mainly determined by the amount of fat in the abdominal wall and the size of the child's liver.



MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

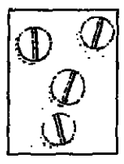
The scientists looked at the records from the Jessop Maternity Hospital in Sheffield of male babies born between 1922 and 1930. The survey found that major risk factors for coronary heart disease were: total serum blood cholesterol levels: the level of the more dangerous cholesterol (the low-density lipoprotein); and the fibrinogen level. These were all higher in those patients who, as newborn babies, had been thin, and presumably in many cases had a small liver.

It seems that if in the later stages of pregnancy the mother is undernourished, the baby's brain is favoured as regards nourishment, to the detriment of the abdominal organs. If the liver is deprived when the child is in utero, the production and regulation of the serum fats and fibrinogen may be disturbed, and may never recover. The Southampton investigations have shown that these changes in cholesterol levels are reflected in an increased death rate from coronary thrombosis later.

The baby's abdominal girth has to be just the right size; too large a liver at birth may also be associated with heart disease in adult life. In these cases the liver may have become enlarged, and damaged, by excessive deposition of glycogen before birth.

Some of the seeds of heart disease can, it seems, be sown long before the victim is able to indulge any fondness for gluttony, sloth, tobacco or too much alcohol.

Sea change



THE seaside is a social nightmare for those ashamed of their physique, or worried about their acned back. A new group can now be added to the number who avoid public exposure: the increasing number of men growing breasts as a result of medical treatment. The size of male breasts is probably usually genetically determined and hereditary. Abnormal enlargement of the breast may be the result either of increased fat deposits or of an increase in true breast tissue. In the latter case, the condition is known as gynaecomastia. A common cause is consumption of too much alcohol over a long period, after which changes in the liver are followed by an excess of circulating female hormones that gives rise to over-red palms of the hands and soles, shrinking genitalia and large breasts.

Many modern drugs can, in some cases, cause gynaecomastia. They range from some tranquillisers and anti-depressants to drugs used in the treatment of heart disease and high blood pressure, and a few rare antibiotics.

Investigations in Britain, conducted by Boston University, have recently been reported in the *BMJ*. They compare the number of cases of gynaecomastia in 81,535 men between the ages of 25 and 84 who had received cimetidine, omeprazole, misoprostol and ranitidine. The study shows that only cimetidine of the ulcer-healing drugs is associated with an appreciable risk of inducing gynaecomastia. Even so, only about 0.8 per cent of men who took the drug suffered gynaecomastia.

Experimental work had already shown that though cimetidine increased the levels of circulating oestradiol, a female hormone, neither ranitidine nor omeprazole had this effect. Cimetidine is available under several brand names. The best-known is Tagamet. Ranitidine is marketed as Zantac and omeprazole as Losec.

Hot spot



GAMOLENIC acid (evening primrose oil) is becoming a common constituent in many people's bathroom cupboards. It has a reputation for reducing breast pain in women as well as being beneficial in skin diseases, and many other diverse complaints in patients of both sexes. As a natural product, evening primrose oil starts with an advantage, and it has been shown to be largely free of side-effects, although the occasional patient may suffer slight nausea or headaches.

Keele University, the Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine in London and Scotia Pharmaceuticals have recently carried out a trial of gamolenic acid for patients suffering from menopausal hot flushes. Fifty-six women who were suffering at least three severe hot flushes a day were randomly selected, and given four capsules daily, all containing either evening primrose oil with vitamin E, or nothing more therapeutic than liquid paraffin.

The result showed that evening primrose oil is not an effective way of treating the 50 per cent of menopausal women who suffer from severe hot flushes. Apart from some minimal reduction in the number of night-time attacks, the patients taking gamolenic acid fared no better than those swallowing liquid paraffin.

There are many women for whom HRT, the obvious answer to menopausal troubles, is contraindicated for medical reasons, and others who are reluctant to take it; but evening primrose does not seem to be a suitable alternative.

Mother's battle of the bulge

Dr James Le Fanu challenges a biologist's claims that conflict rather than harmony reigns in the womb

SCIENCE PHOTO LIBRARY



A human foetus at about four months: some scientists believe it is locked in a genetic competition with its mother

Thanks to ultrasound the development of a foetus in its mother's womb can be observed virtually from the beginning, and it has become clear that the foetus is not just growing, but orchestrating the physiological changes in its mother that allow it to do so.

This process starts right from the moment of fertilisation. Then the conceptus, still little more than a few undifferentiated cells, secretes the hormone HCG which maintains the secretion of progesterone by the ovary. This prevents menstruation, so the lining of the womb, or endometrium, is kept ready for implantation. As soon as implantation occurs the embryo secretes another hormone which encourages the endometrium to become richer with the nutrients and blood vessels necessary for its growth.

The foetal placenta which attaches itself to the wall of the uterus is the means through which the foetus will obtain all the energy and nutrients it requires. But the placenta is much more than a communication channel, it is a factory producing enormous quantities of hormones which pass into the mother's circulation.

The most important of these is oestrogen, which encourages the uterus to grow to a capacity 1,000 times greater than in the non-pregnant state, stimulates the milk-producing cells of the breast, and increases the amount of blood circulating in the veins and arteries by 50 per cent.

Then there is human placental lactogen, or HPL, which mobilises free fatty acids from the mother's fat stores to provide the energy for the foetus to grow, and increases the amount of insulin secreted from the mother's pancreas. This in turn boosts amino acids, the building blocks of foetal tissues.

The precise details of these and many other foetal influences on the mother fill chapters of modern textbooks of obstetrics, but the general impression is of a mysterious symbiotic relationship, in which mother and foetus conspire to realise the outcome that is so clearly desirable for both — the birth of a normal healthy baby.

Next Monday a contrary view will be proposed in a *Horizon* documentary (BBC2, 8pm) devoted to Harvard biologist David Haig. Rather than a harmonious relationship between mother and foetus, Dr Haig sees conflict — a struggle between the interests of the genes of the foetus and those of the mother.

"Foetal genes are selected to increase the transfer of nutrients to the foetus, and maternal genes are selected to limit that transfer," Dr Haig writes in *The Quarterly Review of Biology*. "Thus a process of evolutionary escalation is predicted in which foetal actions are opposed by maternal countermeasures."

Dr Haig elaborates his theory to explain the two main complications of pregnancy — diabetes and raised blood pressure. Influenced by HPL from the placenta, the maternal metabolism of glucose increases during pregnancy to provide the energy for the foetus to grow. This in turn increases the mother's requirements for insulin to keep the glucose levels in her own blood within normal limits. If the insulin-producing cells in the pancreas are unable to deliver, her blood sugar rises, resulting in diabetes.

Similarly the maternal blood pressure influences the perfusion of the placenta, and Dr Haig postulates that the foetal cells, to improve their chances of survival, secrete a substance to boost the mother's blood pressure. This may lead to the condition of pre-eclampsia which damages the mother's kidneys and can, if untreated, result in convulsions and death.

This evidence of conflict might just as readily be explained as an unfortunate failure of the complex homeostatic adjustments the mother has to make to protect the survival of the baby. Indeed, it is difficult to see how the foetal genes are pursuing their self-interest by generating conflict that results in conditions which, before modern medicine, were likely to lead to its own death, if not its mother's.

But Dr Haig's theory does highlight the most remarkable phenomenon in human reproductive biology. Theoretically the mother should reject the foetus because it is genetically different, just as she would reject a transplanted organ. She does not do so, however, because the cells of the placenta are unique in not expressing on their surface the antigens which the mother's immune system would interpret as foreign. The foetus is immunologically "invisible".

In evolutionary terms this could be interpreted as evidence of a successful adaptation by which the "selfish" genes of the foetus ensure their own continued propagation — but it might more appropriately be described as a miracle.

Population mix theory gains ground

Is leukaemia infectious?

Some ideas catch the public imagination so powerfully that they acquire a life of their own, even when the evidence no longer favours them. One such is the theory that radiation from nuclear plants is responsible for clusters of leukaemia cases among children living in the neighbourhood. Initially persuasive, the grounds for believing this have been steadily eroded by the work of Dr Leo Kinlen of the Cancer Research Campaign's Epidemiology Unit in Oxford.

His latest paper, published in last week's *British Medical Journal*, greatly strengthens the hypothesis that leukaemia and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma are in fact infectious diseases, unconnected with radiation. What the infective agent is remains unknown: but the pattern of the disease uncovered by Dr Kinlen and his colleagues seems to fit only with that explanation.

Dr Kinlen has examined large rural construction sites, such as oil refineries and fossil fuel power stations, built by workers who moved into the area from outside. His belief is that it is the mixing of populations caused by such movements that transfers the infective agent from infected to susceptible individuals.

Clearly, since leukaemia is a rare condition, many people must carry the agent without coming to any harm. But if the opportunity arises for it to spread to others who lack resistance, particularly children, then clusters are likely in places where populations from different areas and social classes mix.

The latest data come from power station projects including the Drax plant in Yorkshire and Fawley in Hampshire, and other big construction projects in Wales and Scotland. In the area of each project, the numbers of cases recorded in children up to the age of 14 were compared with the number expected.

The results show that these non-nuclear sites suffered the same excess of cases as did the big nuclear site at Sellafield. Overall, the ratio of observed to expected cases in Sellafield is 1.7:1, almost exactly the same as that for the other projects. The ratio is larger when operation of the plant overlapped with its construction, and larger, too, among higher social classes.

This may explain the particular case of Seascale, a village favoured by many middle-class Sellafield staff, where there have been about ten times as many cases as expected. Seascale has seen a tremendous movement of population to and fro, creating a steady resupply of susceptible children.

"I have now done ten studies showing the same thing," says Dr Kinlen. "I feel like the 19th-century epidemiologists who showed that diseases like measles and mumps were catching, without knowing what actually caused them. It's over to the microbiologists — or more likely, the virologists."

NIGEL HAWKES

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Our favourite Yank

Joanna Pitman talks to America's former Ambassador about why he decided to stay in Britain

MARK ELLIDGE



Raymond Seitz: "An awful lot of interesting people here — the place is immensely attractive"

The Seitz appreciation society will be delighted to hear that Britain is, after all, going to keep Raymond Seitz for a few years more. As American exports go, he is surely up there alongside Coca-Cola and it was with open reluctance that we had resigned ourselves to releasing one of the most popular *and effective* American Ambassadors to the Court of St James's to return to some high-altitude throne on American soil.

Now he has decided to stay on in London, after all. On April 10 he will take up office as a London-based senior managing director of Lehmann Brothers' European investment banking division.

> He will continue to be very welcome — he has been a class act

But we should not, he points out with an unmistakably British brand of needling humour, flatter ourselves that his decision has been made as a result of an overbearing love for Britain. "I've always been very leery on the question of staying just because I like the place so much. The decision has not been easy.

"It was a big move to leave the foreign service which I liked very much, but the move into international finance was not designed in order for us to be able to stay in Britain. It is simply a happy coincidence. I have always been attracted to international finance."

The London surroundings will undeniably add to his enjoyment of the new post. "I do love London and there are an awful lot of interesting people here, which makes the place immensely attractive." But he is adamant that he has not acquired anything so vulgar as "British instincts". He recoils at the prospect as if I have slapped him in the face with a slab of Yorkshire pudding. "I think I would have had to be medically evacuated by now if that were the case," he snorts with his roaring, patrician heehaw of a laugh.

Seitz knows that he will continue to be made very welcome indeed in London. And rightly so, for his ambassadorship has been a class act that has furnished him with a wide range of contacts, friends and admirers. He has spent a total of 13 years in London covering three tours of duty, including an unprecedented extension in 1993 — encouraged by subtle prodding from the Foreign Office and not so subtle clamouring from the British media — into a second term as Ambassador, in spite of the American tradition of replacing key envoys with each new administration.

He has the reputation — rare in Britain — as an intelligent interpreter "from the other side" of the Anglo-American alliance. He has had no trouble distinguishing himself from previous occupants of the post, almost all of whom were appointed as reward for generous donations to political arsenals.

During an era of Anglo-American relations that has traced a vertiginous progression of leaps through high point and low, and has wobbled much in between, he has brought to the role the kind of dedicated passion and wisdom that a fighting parson might bring to a war for liberty.

There was a constructive savagery in his relations with his former employers. When President Bush made a fool of himself trying to appoint a discredited crony as Secretary for Defence, Seitz astonished guests at an official lunch with a series of jokes at the expense of the President, designed to deflect the perceived shame thrust upon America.

When President Clinton was careering down a path of self-ridicule with vague, ambiguous and at times patently confused foreign policy statements, Seitz was prepared to voice open rebukes. But his coolest and most devastating thrust came with the comment "we seem incapable of establishing what our interest is". The nadir of his ambassadorship came when Clinton decided to waive the ban on Gerry Adams visiting the United States. Seitz managed this disaster with customary dignity but, as he says now: "I think my opinion on the matter was written all over my face."

Seitz is a diplomat to his very fingertips. Born in Honolulu in 1940, his future as a promoter of the Atlantic Alliance came naturally, almost automatically, as a consequence of his family's history. "My father commanded one of the American regiments that landed on Omaha beach on D-Day," he says. And 15 years later the young Raymond visited the coastline and the cemeteries of the battlefield and acquired an unabashed devotion to Anglo-American romanticism. (The flag of his father's regiment stood on his desk throughout his time at the embassy.)

After a smooth transition from Yale into the foreign service in 1966, he swept through the ranks, being posted early on to Montreal, Nairobi and Zaire and then taking up his first post in London in 1975. "The high point of my time in London — I know it sounds awfully esoteric — was, I think, the difficult decision in 1982-84 which led to short-range nuclear missiles being recalled. This made a big difference in the way the transatlantic alliance was viewed and I think it was right and important and hastened the end of the Cold War."

Still only 54, Seitz's face is long, his forehead high and smooth, his demeanour highbred. No longer required to perform the nimble juggling of diplomacy, you get the sense that he relishes the prospect of hand-to-hand fighting in the jungle of investment banking.

Although he would never say so, I had the impression that for him and his wife the prospect of being sent back to America now, having made so many British friends and contacts, would not quite be cricket.

Margot Norman peers through a glass ceiling

Can't women make it in Whitehall?

When Jennifer Forsyth joined the Civil Service in 1945, there were more women heading government departments than there are now. Miss Forsyth, who reached the level of Under-Secretary at the Department of Transport before retiring and becoming a Labour councillor in Kensington and Chelsea, remembers Mary Smeeton as Permanent Secretary at Education, Muriel Riddlesdell was at the then DHSS and, of course, the redoubtable Dame Evelyn Sharp was at Housing and Local Government. There was also Elsie Abbott as Deputy Secretary at the Treasury.

Now, after ten years of active encouragement and monitoring of women's progress up through the ranks, the Civil Service can point to only one woman who has made it to permanent secretary. This is Valerie Strachan who, as head of Customs and Excise, has an important job but not one regarded as one of the service's real plums. (At yesterday's press conference the Civil Service also claimed the Director of Public Prosecutions, Barbara Mills, whose position holds permanent secretary rank, but this is disingenuous, since she made her way to the top as a barrister before becoming a civil servant).

"Evelyn Sharp was a role model for us all," says Miss Forsyth. "The Civil Service was frightfully proud of her: if anyone criticised their treatment of women they would point to her." She was a highly visible role model too: in 1961 the *Daily Mail* ran a banner headline asking "The dame — is she Britain's most powerful woman?"

Richard Crossman portrayed her in his diaries as a dragon. "Wanting improvement and social justice quite passionately and yet a tremendous patrician and utterly contemptuous and arrogant ... She sees the ordinary human being as incapable of making a sensible decision."

Dame Evelyn, who was made a baroness, hit back at her former minister in public. In her, career-minded young women could clearly see the possibility of achieving power and influence through the Civil Service.

So why, after all these years, have more of them not done so? Jennifer Forsyth remembers her prospects changing sharply as men returning from the war entered the Civil Service and, in effect, elbowed the women out of the way. "It became very male dominated — one had to button one's lip when one one found oneself working under less able men."



Dame Evelyn Sharp. Daughter of an Ealing vicar, and the highest paid woman in the Civil Service, is to be a Deputy Secretary of Local Government and Planning. Her Salary is £3,250 a year. Times 14.2.51.

But since 1989, when Dame Anne Mueller as Second Permanent Secretary at the Treasury (the only woman of that rank at the time) published her report *Alternative Working Patterns* and introduced part-time working, job-sharing and a whole collection of new arrangements designed to help woman civil servants rise, the Civil Service has been regarded as a model of family-friendliness in comparison with the private sector.

Yet the proportion of 10 per cent of women in the top three grades has not shifted since 1989. Twice as many women as men were resigning ten years ago, and the proportion had still not dropped greatly. Anne Mueller points to the senior women about to break through to the top level — Anne Bowtell, for example, who has brought up four children and will become Permanent Secretary at Health — and says it is all a matter of time. "It takes 30 years to work your way up the ladder, so it's a question of waiting a bit longer. The main obstacles to women's promotion have definitely now been removed."

Kate Jenkins left the Civil Service after 20 years because, like many civil servants who saw the way the Tory wind was blowing in the 1980s, she wanted management experience. As head of the Prime Minister's efficiency unit she had, however, been chief architect of the policy of creating quasi-autonomous government agencies, in which several women now hold chief executive posts. She is surprised, and concerned, that there are still so few female permanent and deputy secretaries.

In fact, the proliferation of agencies has made promotion prospects worse for civil servants of both sexes, simply because the jobs are advertised and are open to private sector people. Jo Ouston, a career development consultant, detects a lot of unwarranted anti-Civil Service prejudice. "The Civil Service is doing its best," she says, "but it has contracted so sharply that there just aren't the interesting jobs available for its brightest people to do.

"Not untypical is one high-flier in her thirties at the Overseas Development Agency, for whom there simply wasn't a suitable job, so the Department let her go to the European Commission and will have her back without loss of seniority for up to five years. There is simply a promotion log-jam, and it is hitting the very high-grade people who, had they chosen the private sector would have had great careers."

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Julia Llewellyn Smith on marriage Hollywood-style

Hello! and goodbye

Marriages made in Hollywood conform to the simplest rules of scriptwriting: they all have a beginning, a middle and, inevitably, an end. Yesterday, Julia Roberts and Lyle Lovett became the latest Tinseltown couple to issue a statement which waffles on about remaining "close and in great support of each other". In other words, after less than two years of marriage, they are legally separating.

Movie stars and monogamy go together like cornflakes and Tabasco. In the past year we have endured the splits of Richard Gere and Cindy Crawford, Roseanne and Tom Arnold, Billy Joel and Christie Brinkley. But as the Royal Family know you should get straight back on a horse after a fall, most of them have already returned to the register office, vowing that this time it is for ever.

It is not as if the Pretty Woman and her ugly country-and-western singing husband will be wondering how they will ever get used to sleeping alone. In their 21 months of marriage, the couple barely saw each other and were usually working thousands of miles apart.

Such stories are rarely greeted with sobs. We know that these sacrifices are the downside of multi-million dollar contracts. More importantly, we suspect that such unions had little to do with passion in the first place, and everything to do with magazine covers and improved ratings.

In Hollywood, a marriage is not for life, but until you find a new agent; a celebrity spouse is just as much of an accessory as a Prada handbag, to be discarded with each new season.

"This is the only place in the world where an amicable divorce means that each gets 50 per cent of the publicity," said Lauren Bacall.

None of these stars are on the breadline, yet they still seem compelled to exploit their so-called heartbreak. On Saturday night, America will be treated to the multi-millionaire Donald Trump and his acrimonious ex-wife, Ivana, kissing and making up on television in an advertisement for Pizza Hut, for which they were paid $1 million each. "You just can't turn down that kind of money," he said.

A price cannot be put on a reputation, however, as Michael Jackson discovered when rumours began about his sexuality. The gossip mill was silenced when he "secretly" married Elvis's daughter Lisa Marie. The ring was scarcely on her finger before divorce talk began, but no matter — the damage had been limited. Crawford and Gere have never been able to quash rumours about their preferences.

Hollywood has always been a hall of mirrors. Long before the birth of *Hello!* magazine's showbiz "happy couples" profiles, studios realised the value of "lavender marriages".

The homosexual heartthrob Rudolph Valentino, one of the earliest screen idols of the 1920s, married the lesbian Jean Acker. Greta Garbo, Tallulah Bankhead, Charles Laughton, Cary Grant, Montgomery Clift, James Dean and Anthony Perkins were some of the idols who chose marriage to hide their sexuality or promiscuity. The public may not have been convinced, but reputations were saved.



Lyle Lovett and Julia Roberts: barely saw each other

POLANSKI
PLAYS WITH FIRE



In his new film Roman Polanski steers dangerously close to the dark forces that have marred his own life. Read James Dalrymple on Polanski, with photographs by Helmut Newton, in The Sunday Times **Magazine** this week



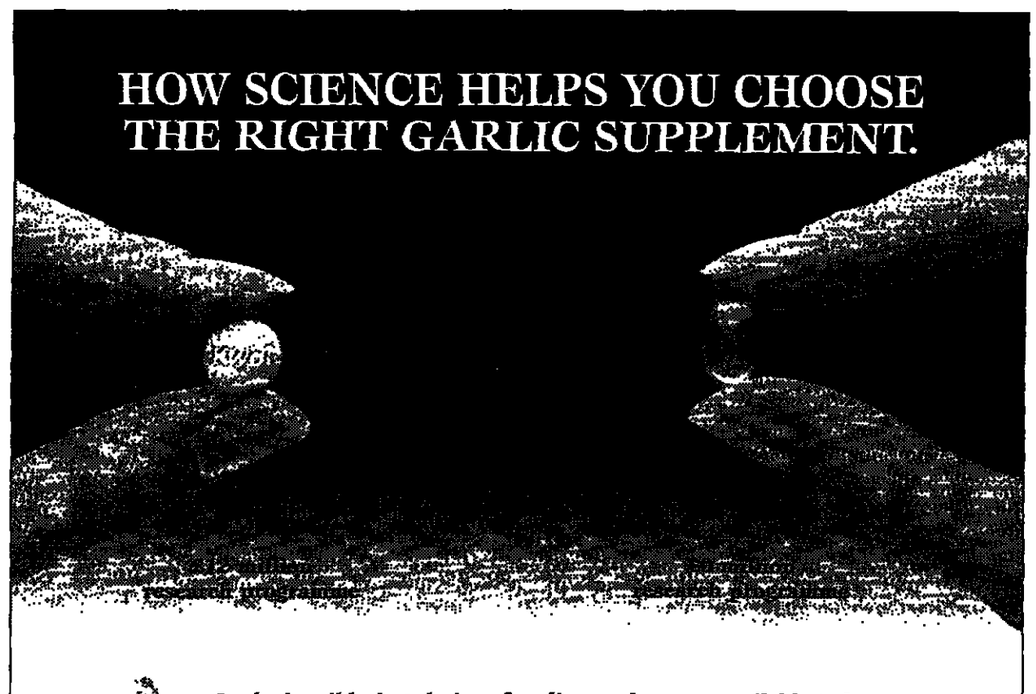
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An old flame makes Zoë Heller shudder in New York

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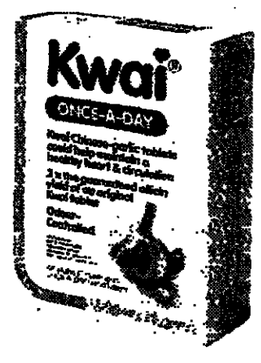
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DT17

Janet Daley



■ Labour is bound to be disingenuous about law and order. But Tory whining will not win the debate

I never expected to find myself agreeing with Edward Heath. But I gave a half-hearted cheer when he told the Government to "Shut up about the BBC . . . and get down to the brass tacks of answering the points which have been made". Half-hearted because I see little sign that this Cabinet is capable of recognising a political advantage when it jumps into its lap. For example: the Shadow Home Secretary, Jack Straw, staged a press conference in which he offered up as news some rewarmed "shock" statistics about crime. Homeowners have a one in 11 chance of being burgled in a year and there is a one in 64 chance of becoming a victim of violent crime. The chances of your car or its contents being stolen are one in five, blah-blah. The punchline was that crime had got much worse under the Tories.

Not only is there nothing new in these figures but in presenting them, Mr Straw used the scaremongering tactic that is often criticised by the Left when it has its other — The Crimewave is a Myth — hat on. That is, he confounded property crime with personal violence, thus making people feel at more physical risk than they actually are. This is the sort of cheap thing that parties in Opposition do in the run-up to elections. And the media cannot ignore them. If they did, they would be justly accused of taking their news pegs only from the Government.

So, presented with this well-publicised soft target by the Opposition, what do the Tories do? They shriek at the BBC for giving it too much coverage. What they might have done instead was to regard the prominence given to this non-story as a gift. It could have licensed them to tear into the real history of rising crime in this country and to trace it back to Labour policies. Had they been interested in countering the substance of Jack Straw's case instead of indulging in another self-pitying whinge about the BBC, they might have won a round in a genuine debate about the decline of law and order.

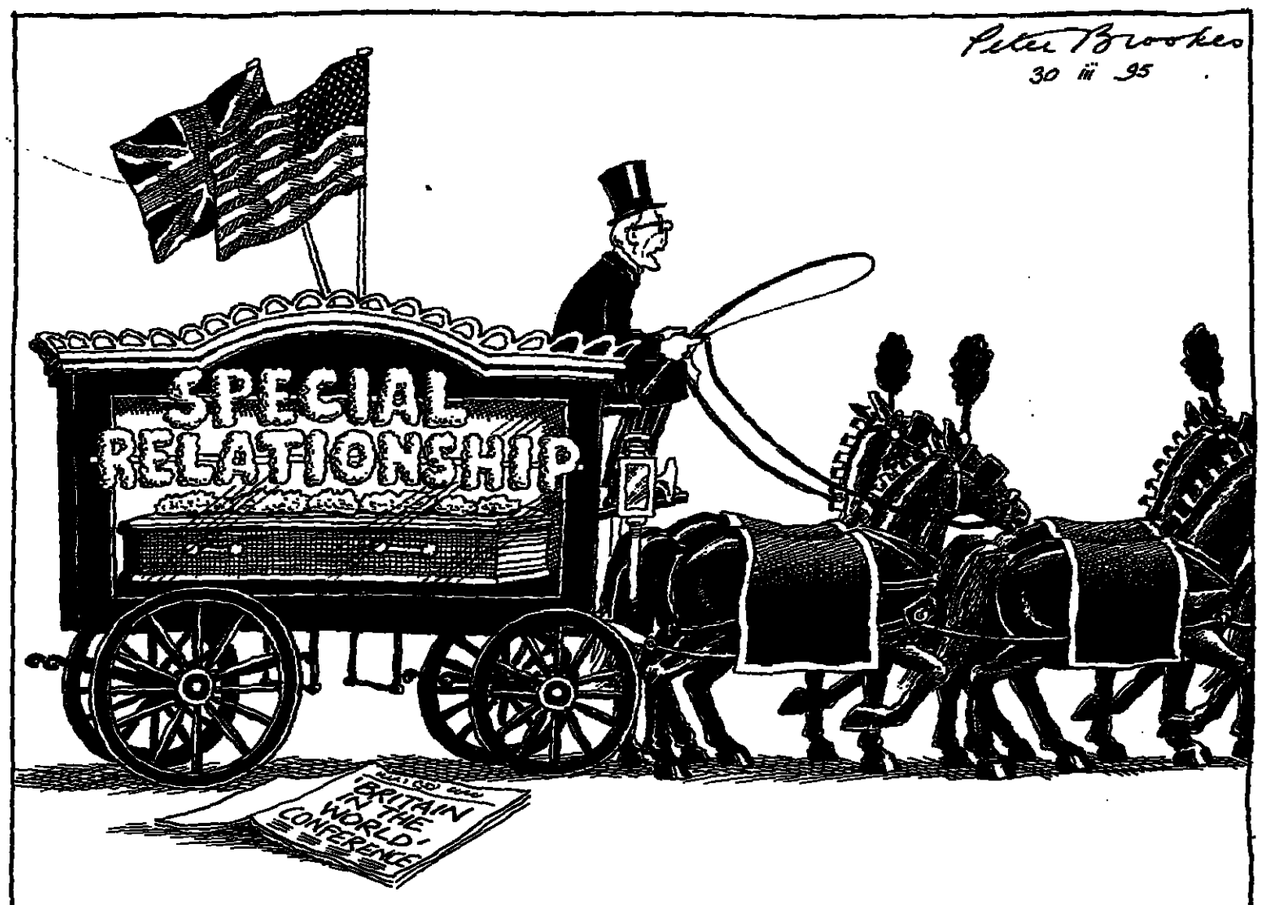
Labour seems to have two grounds for blaming rising crime on the Tories. One is the historical fact that they happen to have been in power for the past 15 years, during which crime has escalated (or "soared out of control" as politicians put it, when it suits them). But that is only to say that they have been in office for the latter half of the period in which crime has exponentially increased. The dramatic upward curve in the crime figures began in the 1960s and has been rising more or less inexorably ever since. This trajectory has been largely unaffected by the changes in political complexion of the governments in power during that time. It is almost certainly a safe assumption that whoever had held office during the last decade and a half would have been lumbered with the same dire record on law and order.

The other basis for the charge that the Tories have actively made crime worse, is more theological: by encouraging greed and increasing unemployment, they have produced a more unequal and immoral society. People who are robbed of economic hope and at the same time exposed to mass acquisitiveness are more likely to resort to crime. But another way of seeing the social changes of the past 15 years is that most people in society have been able to purchase the kind of consumer durables which thieves covet — because a great many people have become much more affluent. Those who have not feel alienated precisely because they are a shrinking minority. The possibility of accumulating valuable private goods has been extended much more widely in Britain than ever before, which gives more scope for property crime, particularly in working-class areas. As a taxi driver from the East End once said to me: "People say they used to be able to leave their doors unlocked. They forget that then they didn't have anything worth stealing."

> A great many people have become much more affluent

As everyone — even Jack Straw — admits, crime is largely an inner-city problem. And who made the inner cities what they are? Which party in local government drove out middle-class homeowners by insisting that they subsidise council estates where rent defaulters were never pursued? Which councils pushed up rates to levels that drove businesses out of its areas, thus ruining local employment prospects? Labour, of course. And it was Labour who supported teaching unions when they dismantled literate education and pulled out of supervising the after-school activities that used to keep wayward children off the streets. And Labour councils who often banned policemen from coming into schools to talk to children.

The inner cities have been Labour strongholds for a generation. It was Labour education and housing policies which turned them from vibrant mixed communities into one-class ghettos from which anyone with aspirations sought escape — leaving the schools and the housing to deteriorate. And guilt itself was nearly defined out of existence by an army of probation officers and social workers who are all part of Labour's natural constituency. That is what the Government would say, if it were not brain-dead.



Sitting in judgment

Michelangelo's painting in the Sistine Chapel may reflect his private hell

William Rees-Mogg

On October 12, 1534, Alexander Farnese, the Dean of the College of Cardinals, was elected Pope and took the name of Paul III. It was one of the shortest conclaves on record, the proceedings being completed inside a single day. Paul III had already been a Cardinal for 40 years; he was 66 and seemed to be in frail health. It was said that "ambitious cardinals expected that his reign could not be long before he made way for one of them". In fact he reigned until 1549, and was the Pope who formulated the main counter-Reformation policy. He called the Council of Trent; he excommunicated King Henry VIII; he restored the prosperity of Rome after the sack by the Emperor's troops in 1527; he authorised the foundation of the Jesuits.

Paul III was also one of the greatest patrons of Michelangelo. He employed him as an architect on the Palazzo Farnese, and commissioned him to paint the *Last Judgment* on the altar wall of the Sistine Chapel. Last weekend I was in Rome for Margaret Thatcher's opening of the Eden Hotel, which has been refurbished by Forte. A small group of us were given the privilege of a private visit to the Sistine Chapel.

Viewing the chapel in a small group does remove one of the difficulties in the way of appreciating it. Others remain. Generations of tourists have found it hard to see the ceiling without getting a crick in the neck. The cleaning has greatly enhanced the painting; one used to see dark forms behind the discoloured varnish. There are some discordant colours, where different pigments have aged in different ways, but that is a small price to pay.

Yet the difficulty of the Sistine Chapel is not simply tourist crowds or matters of restoration. The chapel is at least three different things: a place of worship, a work of art, and a scene of history. As a place of worship few people find it ideal. Despite the triumphalist architecture, it is easier to pray in St Peter's itself; in the Sistine Chapel, the feeling is different. One is too conscious both of the aesthetic impact and of the wealth and power of the Catholic Church as an institution.

Even as a work of art, the Sistine Chapel is by no means easy. The ceiling can perhaps be regarded as a welcoming work of art, almost distractingly beautiful. But the great *Last Judgment* dominates the whole. One does not just drop in on Michelangelo's *Last Judgment* as one might drop in on a Gainsborough portrait in the National Gallery. To do so would be like taking a paperback of Milton's *Paradise Lost* to read for an hour on a short flight. Michelangelo's painting is very demanding, in its structure as a composition and in its communication as a work of religion.

The composition follows a traditional pattern. Christ is the central figure, in a luminous oval; the dead are rising again, watched by angels and saints; some are rising towards heaven, others are falling towards hell, which is at the foot of the painting on Christ's left-hand side as he faces the viewer. If one compares the Sistine Chapel with Giotto's fresco in the Arena Chapel in Padua, which was painted rather more than 200 years earlier, there are a number of significant differences. All Michelangelo's figures are seen in motion, a swirl of movement in an arc from those rising on the right to those falling on the left. Giotto's people stand in stiff rows. Giotto has Christ outlined in an egg-shaped oval, standing on his own. In Michelangelo the oval is not outlined, and is not regular; Christ has his mother at his right-hand side.

The pose of Christ is quite different from Giotto's conception. Giotto's Christ is full of manifest compassion, with both arms outstretched. Michelangelo's has his right arm raised in a gesture reminiscent of an orchestral conductor calling for silence. Vasari talks about "terribilita", but the gesture seems more one of suspense than a threat. Michelangelo's Christ has absolute authority. In a preliminary sketch now in Florence, compassion is expressed not by Christ but by his mother, who is looking upwards with a gesture beseeching mercy for the world. In the Sistine Chapel she is turning away, as though in distress; Vasari even thought she was intended to appear afraid of her son.

As Paul III was the great Pope of the early counter-Reformation, one might have expected the *Last Judgment* that he commissioned to be a counter-Reformation icon, a statement in paint of the Roman Catholicism that was to be asserted by the Council of Trent and by the Jesuits. It is nothing of the kind. Apart from a rosary and St Peter, who appears holding the key of heaven, there is little specifically Catholic symbolism; the cast includes early saints and Jewish patriarchs who would have been as familiar and acceptable to Luther as to Paul III. The *Last Judgment* is an extraordinarily powerful religious painting, but it represents the inspiration of the artist, although working in an established tradition rather than being propaganda for a specifically Roman view of the Faith. Indeed from a very early time some people criticised it for heterodoxy.

Michelangelo drew on a variety of traditions, on the Bible, on Christian myth, on medieval cosmology, on Dante's *Inferno* and on the journey to the underworld in Virgil's *Aeneid*. The period was one of intense religious speculation, not only in the Protestant north of Europe, but equally in Renaissance Italy. This included neo-Platonists, and Michelangelo seems to portray Christ as a Platonic ideal, a perfect standard by which universal judgment could be made, rather than a compassionate and human redeemer. Michelangelo himself had been closely associated with neo-Platonists in the Medici circle.

One of the chief concerns of the neo-Platonists, as of human beings in every generation, was human survival after death. Henry More, the 17th-century Cambridge Platonist, tells this story: "That eximious Platonist, Marsilius Ficinus, after a warm dispute of the immortality of the soul, made a solemn vow with his fellow Platonist Michael Mercatus, but whether of them two died first should appear to his friend, and given him certain information of that truth . . . Michael Mercatus being very intent at his studies betimes on a morning heard an horse riding by with all speed, and observed that he stopped at his window, and therewith heard the voice of his friend Ficinus crying out loud: 'O Michael, Michael, *vera, vera, sunt illa*' [these things are true]. He suddenly opened the window, and espying Marsilius on a white steed, called after him, but he vanished in his sights . . . he died about that hour."

If we try to understand Michelangelo's *Last Judgment*, we have to accept that he believed that what he was painting was true; he did not think he was painting a mere illustration to a story. This is difficult for modern people, since hell is the most discredited part of traditional Christianity. We have gained and lost by this rejection of hell. What we have gained is a stronger belief in God's mercy; indeed I believe in the compassionate Christ of Giotto rather than the apparently implacable Christ of Michelangelo. What we have lost is the recognition of the reality of evil, and this in the century of Auschwitz.

The late Bede Griffiths, the saintly Benedictine monk who studied the Eastern religions, puts the problem very well: "Each religion contends with this problem of justice and mercy, wrath and love, law and grace, and in a sense the conflict can never be resolved, as long as we remain on the level of duality . . . perhaps the problem is most acute with the Christian doctrine of hell and eternal punishment. In both Hinduism and Buddhism hell is a temporary state and no one is condemned to eternal punishment." Even in Michelangelo hell is for the sin rather than the sinner; a scholar of the period, George Bull, tells me that there is evidence that the figures falling into hell represent the deadly sins, not individual sinners.

There are some medieval illustrations which show the soul of the individual as containing the whole universe, following the statement in St Luke's Gospel: "The kingdom of heaven is within you." In these illustrations also, Christ is at the centre, sometimes with his mother. One can read the *Last Judgment* in the Sistine Chapel as an inner portrait of Michelangelo himself, with the redeemer at the centre of the human soul and the demons in a dark and subterranean subconscious. This hell is what is what Swedenborg, the remarkable Swedish mystic, called "vastation"; what is certain is that Michelangelo had personally experienced the dark night of the soul.

America's new special relationship

Henry Kissinger on Britain's role in the world

At the end of the Second World War, Britain was the only country that had not been occupied at one stage or another, that had preserved its institutions and its inward strength and had therefore made the transition from power to influence in an extraordinary manner. It took exceptional self-discipline and skill for a country that had been at the centre of world affairs to shift its emphasis in this way. And while the Gaullist approach to America was to make disagreements extremely painful, the British approach was to make disagreements extremely embarrassing.

Since then, many of the tacit bargains by which Europe and the United States and the European/American relationship were constructed have been altered. The Cold War has obviously ended. The division of Germany has also gone, and with it the position in which France had a certain kind of political leadership on the Continent, and Germany a certain kind of economic leadership. The United States performed the security role. Germany was linked to the US through Nato and through France to the European Union; and Britain was extremely helpful in establishing an overall framework. Now that relationship has to be redefined.

I do not agree with those who believe that the United States should now shift this special relationship to Germany. It is not helpful to Germany and it is not meaningful for the United States. We should not have a special Continental partner and I do not know any German leader who aspires to such a position. What is needed is co-operation with Europe in the transition to the conduct of a global policy without enemies.

There have been two approaches to European/American relations. One was the Gaullist approach for which, in my writings, I have had great sympathy. It reflected the necessities of a country that had gone through tremendous difficulties in the War and in the colonial period and that needed to reaffirm its identity. The second was the British approach which, more secure in its identity, sought to establish a pattern of co-operation with the United States. This was very difficult to challenge because it reflected the convictions and common interests of both sides. The British approach also reflected an historic tradition of a global foreign policy, while the French approach was more closely geared to the calculations of the margins on which stability in central Europe depended.

In the period of the Cold War, when the United States had the dominant role in security and when there was only one visible international challenge, it made some sense to define European identity by trying to wrest it from the United States.

Today, nothing is easier to achieve than to have America turn away from Europe; nothing is simpler than to convince Americans that they have no special interest in Europe. The tasks that Europe has are now so manifold that they do not have to be sanctioned by the United States. The participation of the central European countries in the European Union is an obvious example. There is no need for America to take a position or to involve itself. Whether Europe should follow a multiple geometry or be more closely integrated makes a difference in the relations between Europe and the US but it cannot be affected significantly by American pronouncements. As Europe expands, I personally believe that a more flexible approach is probably the more effective.

In America, we need to give a priority to European relations that frankly has been lacking. Therefore, the debate about Nato membership ought not to be permitted to fester indefinitely. It is no longer possible to build an Atlantic relationship exclusively on security issues.

There was a period in which I thought that the next phase of American foreign policy should be to concentrate on building a western hemisphere community. I still think that that is an important enterprise but I believe more that what we now need to do is to examine the idea of some form of North Atlantic free trade association, or free trade agreement. Whatever America builds in the western hemisphere could then be related to such an association, and it would enable us to act with some purpose and some direction.

A succession of American leaders of both political parties have over a period of more than a generation considered it natural that on major issues Britain and the United States would seek to co-operate. They would have a level of consultation that was never formalised but was central to the formation of policy in both countries. Now, the challenge is whether this can be done with European/American relations and this is where Britain's experience can make a seminal contribution. Europe does not need to wrest its identity any longer from the United States.

● *This is an extract from Dr Kissinger's speech to the Conference on "Britain in the world"*

Doubly hurt

DISASTER has befallen a lady-in-waiting to Princess Margaret. On her return from holiday in Barbados, Jane Stevens discovered that thieves had raided the garden of her Oxfordshire home. The vandals decapitated an antique lead statue of a Cavalier soldier, and then made off with four other statues.

She is devastated. "The statues had been here for many years and they were part of this beautiful place," said the former wife of Jocelyn Stevens, the chairman of English Heritage. "The thieves broke down the gate on two nights running to get in. They didn't get everything they wanted the first time, so they came back again the following night."

In the first raid at the converted mill near Abingdon the thieves left the severed head after failing to wrench the statue from its plinth; they then stole a sculpture of a heron. The second time they took two stone ornaments and a bronze eagle. They had to cut off the bird's beak and feet to break it loose.

Mrs Stevens, who lives at Kensington Palace when in London, is still opening her garden to the public on April 2. But she has complained that the police were slow to act. A spokesman from Thames Valley rejected the suggestion. "She is upset because she felt the police were not paying any attention. But the problem was that the housekeeper, who reported the crime in her absence, could not give us any details."

● *Live television coverage of Ronnie Kray's funeral cortege through London's East End yesterday provoked a minor hitch for one burly minder with a crew-cut. When his mother spotted him on the box, she rang him immediately on his mobile phone. "Not now, Mum," he cooed, fending off the crowds with his free hand. "I'm a touch busy."*

French class

USHERETTES will be on their guard against ink pellets and flying rubber bands in theatreland today, when all 920 boys, plus teachers, parents and friends of Loughborough Grammar School scrum in for a West End show. In what is believed to be the biggest block-booking for a Cameron Mackintosh production, Loughborough has taken all 1,500 seats of the Palace Theatre for the matinée performance of *Les Misérables*.

The outing is part of the school's quincentenary celebrations, explains the school bursar, Philip Feather. "*Les Mis* may seem a slightly strange choice of show for a celebration but it's supposed to be very good. I expect the most interesting part of the day will be when 25 coaches try to leave the West End in the rush hour."

● *Just as singers were about to burst forth in London's Banqueting House at a dinner hosted by the Historic Royal Palaces on Tuesday night, they were cut short by a piercing "Beeeeep!". Angry eyes swivelled towards the culprit and caught David Mellor sneaking from the room, fiddling with his bleeper and leaving his paramour, Lady Cobham, rigid with embarrassment.*

Good sign

JOHN MAJOR's love of Anthony Trollope is now set in stone. The Prime Minister has agreed to become vice-president of the Trollope Society, which celebrated the news in London last night at its annual dinner.

The society's founder, John Letts, is delighted but insists that Major will have no formal duties. "By a very charming coincidence, however, his acceptance letter from Downing Street was signed by his private secretary, a Miss Warburton," he says. "Well, the private secretary to the Prime Minister in Anthony Trollope's book *The Prime Minister* was a Mr Warburton. I wonder if Mr Major chose someone with the same name deliberately."

● *Douglas Hurd stoutly resists whining about the BBC in the manner of his ministerial colleagues. Indeed at his mega-conference yesterday on* Britain and the World, *our Foreign Secretary enthused: "The BBC is the most recognised brand name in the world — after Coca-Cola."*



Pecking order

AUDITIONS are soon to be held for the top job at the Tower of London. Only those with the right dark good looks and winning personality need apply. The Yeoman Raven Master of the Tower, David Cope, is scouring the country for ravens to replace two birds deemed too vicious for life at the tower.

The brace of offenders, which all but pecked the life out of their six peers, have been locked up in a corner of the tower. They will be retired to a sanctuary in Wales when their replacements are found and Cope is pinning his hope on a trip to the Outer Hebrides, where ravens are awaiting his perusal. "Recently the birds have come from Wales," he says. "But in 1946 the Duke of Sutherland gave us three birds from Scotland and I thought that it would be appropriate to have a change of blood."



Dark, handsome couple sought

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BRITAIN'S PLACE

Good questions were asked yesterday: answers take longer

Asking the Royal Institute for International Affairs to invite 700 people to discuss Britain's place in the world was always a risk. Nothing immediately tangible was ever going to come from it — apart from the all too patent moments of humour. Nonetheless the Government took the risk: it opened the management of British foreign policy for a day and deserves rewards for doing so.

Strategic concerns were outlined yesterday which need sustained attention and a wider public airing. What reliance can we place in future on the Pax Americana? Can the European Union bring stability to a continent from which communism has fallen? Or will Europe fall victim to sluggish growth, severe unemployment, over-regulation and loss of political confidence? Twenty years from now will Europe be dominated by the dynamic economies of Asia in every field bar the study of its own history?

"Britain in the World" is a theme which attracts easy gibes about post-imperial nostalgia, the avoidance of the European perspective that is so often said to be the only reality. Yet, as yesterday's discussions showed, it is not nostalgic to be sceptical of Europe's drift to bureaucratic union. British foreign policy must not be trapped in the narrow grooves which Maastricht has carved. As a country which exports more per head than Japan, Britain continues to have a vital interest in the rule of law in the wider world — and thus in preserving what Hobbes called "the common power to keep men in awe". Its permanent membership of the UN Security Council is not an anachronism: it accurately reflects the respect in which British diplomatic skills and the professionalism of its Armed Forces are held.

Churchill's "terrible century", as Mr Major said yesterday, has ended "sooner and more suddenly than anyone foresaw". But many Western walls have developed fissures since the Berlin Wall between East and West came down. The mishandling of the war in Bosnia has weakened both the United Nations and Nato. In America, as Henry Kissinger said yesterday, "internationalism is no longer identified with European struggles".

This ought to call into play a British asset identified by Dr Kissinger: its skill in managing "the transition from power to influence" without losing the historic tradition of a global foreign policy. In his view, the transatlantic dialogue which characterised the 1940s needs to be revived in order to smooth the transition to the post-Cold War world — not in Britain, but America. His country, he said, has no strategic plan for dealing with a world without an ideological enemy, or practice in playing a field in which there are half a dozen players. A policy based on hegemony is neither feasible, nor acceptable to the American public; but there is also a passionate national aversion to balance-of-power politics, the game of reasonable equilibrium on which the future is likely to be based. Should the Europeans make the cardinal error of seeing the world in terms of "European" and "American" interests, he foresees "a continuation of the Western civil war that started in 1914".

This sobering threat has to be absorbed and acted on. However sour British relations with Washington are at present, Douglas Hurd was right to emphasise the solidity and multidimensional character of its contacts with the American Establishment. Britain has always seen itself as as a European power reaching out from Europe. Britain has exceptionally wide international contacts, which it is better placed to exploit now that colonial resentments — and Britain's spasms of post-colonial guilt — recede into history. But Britain should not forget that Asia is also a strategically unstable zone. Looking East demands at least equally careful attention to the transatlantic dimension.

Above all, the business of projecting and defending Britain's national interests need not and should not be hostage to arguments about the potential value of a common European foreign and security policy, which may never acquire any substance. There is nothing nostalgic — still less escapist — about an effort to push debate in Britain out of a defensive mode in which Brussels is the centre of all attention.

WISE COUNCIL

Look inside local government and search for the best

John Major's campaign to improve public services under the banner of the Citizen's Charter has been one of his Government's most considerable and least appreciated achievements. The publication today of the Audit Commission's local authority performance indicators is another welcome example of commitment to transparency in public administration and the fruits which this policy may eventually bear.

The tables, which cover the services provided by more than 450 councils, offer the citizen a statistical map of the modern welfare state. Education provision in Tower Hamlets may be compared with services in Humberside. Council rents in Hackney can be judged against those in Warwick. As the commission gives warning, these figures need careful interpretation. High spending is not the same as wise spending. The needs of a sparsely populated rural area are not the same as those of an inner-city borough. A local authority with a history of weak infrastructure cannot be judged on the same terms as one that has inherited the opposite.

Yet these caveats should not obscure the clear merits of the commission's new venture. As the Banham Commission has demonstrated, the sheer variety of local provision is one of the key features of public adminstration in this country. Taxpayers have a right to survey this variety and to ask why the services they subsidise and benefit from are so much more — or less — efficiently provided in a neighbouring local authority. Why, it will be asked, do some town halls spend more on their secondary school pupils than others? Why do some councils find it so difficult to pay student grants on time? Why do some have such a high proportion of citizens over 75 in residential care?

One effect of the new transparency will be to disturb some jaded stereotypes. Lambeth, for all its noisy political correctness, appears to be the only council in England and Wales that does not know how many disabled citizens it should be serving. Liverpool, in contrast, emerges as one of the more effective urban authorities in some areas of provision. Nearly all of its pupils with special needs, for example, have passed through the bureaucracy within six months, compared with fewer than 10 per cent in some areas.

Comparison of this kind will also encourage attention to best practice. Wise councillors will seek closer liaison with local organisations promoting the interests of people with disabilities and other voluntary organisations. They will ask if anything could be done to reduce the considerable disparities between council rents in England and Wales. They will also look hard at the targets they set themselves. Some town halls, for instance, aim to deliver a bath to a home in two weeks; others within three months. Some hope to answer the telephone in ten seconds or less; others pay attention to the actual helpfulness of their responses to letters and telephone calls. As experience is pooled, so costs will be driven down. Lessons learnt in one borough will not necessarily be easy to export to a county hundreds of miles away. But in many cases, they will be. The more accessible that information about local government becomes, the better the services provided to ordinary people should become. The Prime Minister deserves credit for this quiet achievement.

READ THE KORAN

A measured message from the Bishop of Rochester

Anarchy in Algeria, blasphemy in Pakistan, and fatwas against Salman Rushdie all conspire to widen further the gulf which exists between the West and the Islamic world. Yet a timely book by the Bishop of Rochester, published today, argues that this state of affairs need not persist for ever.

In his *Mission and Dialogue*, the Right Rev Michael Nazir-Ali states that "like Christianity, Islam has a rich and varied theological tradition". He argues for the development in Islamic theology and exegesis of a greater responsiveness to change. Citing such reformers as Waliullah and Sir Syed Ahmed Khan, the bishop argues that while the tenets of Islamic jurisprudence "need always to be promoted", this need not be "in ways identical with those of nomadic society in the 7th century". Believers of Islam must be enabled to "engage with contemporary life from the perspective of their faith", just as the evolution of Christianity has made it possible for the faithful to engage with their own scriptures.

Bishop Nazir-Ali hails from a Muslim background in Pakistan, and was previously the Bishop of Raiwind in Punjab. He is better placed than most to understand the difficulties faced by Christian minorities in a predominantly Muslim society, illustrated so starkly by the torment of Salamat Masih, the teenager charged with blasphemy against Islam last month in Lahore. Equally, he is in a prime position to fathom the dilemma of Muslims who live as a minority in Western Christian societies. Although it is important that his book be read by theologians in Islamic societies, it is towards the latter group that his ideas are most powerfully directed.

In exhorting Muslims and their theologians to rise to the challenge of modernity, the bishop suggests that an intellectual culture needs to be encouraged within Islam "which will be critical in its approach to the sources of the faith". Questions will arise inevitably about the relation of Muslims to Christians and Jews — the other *Ahl al-Kitab*, or People of the Book. This, in the Bishop's own words, "should lead also to an interest in the literary background to the Koran" and its affiliation to the the Judaeo-Christian scriptures.

International society needs a dialogue of reconciliation today between Western and Islamic thinkers as urgently as it once needed harmony between Christians and Jews. Such a development, if it were to promote a better understanding between Muslim and Christian societies, would enhance the spirit and temper of Islam itself as well as act as a force for global good.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Canada's fishing dispute with Spain

From Mrs John Speller

Sir, I write as a Canadian and also as a British citizen. I am the proud holder of two passports.

The Canadian Government's views in the fishing dispute with Spain seem quite straightforward and clear and also seem to represent the interests and concerns of its citizens. As a Canadian, I have no reservations.

The British view, too, judged by public opinion, seems very clear and generally supportive. As a British citizen, I am quite content.

I wish I felt the same about the pious and pompous statements emanating from EU "spokespersons" who also supposedly speak on my behalf.

Yours faithfully,
MARILLA SPELLER,
Corham House, Sandpit Lane,
Bledlow, Buckinghamshire.
March 29.

From Señor Alfonso Torrents dels Prats

Sir, The praise bestowed by you on Newfoundlanders in your leader of March 28, "Brave Newfie World", seems to rely solely on sentiment: over 90 per cent of them are of British descent.

International fishing rights are dismissed as "niceties" and Brussels, of course, is always wrong because of its "bloated [lest we forget this standing epithet] bureaucracy". It seems a bit contradictory to read in the same issue of your paper that British inspectors who boarded the Spanish trawler *Estai*, seized on March 9, "found no evidence of rule-breaking".

Yours sincerely,
ALFONSO TORRENTS dels PRATS,
162 Coleherne Court,
Old Brompton Road, SW5.
March 28.

From Mr Roger R. Cook

Sir, During the current fishing dispute, much has been written about Britain's links, and debt, to Canada. Europe's debt, however, seems forgotten. In two European wars this century Canadians died to ensure a fair and democratic Europe — not least at Vimy Ridge and Dieppe. Canada has also done far more than its share in UN peacekeeping operations around the world.

Spain's historical contribution is far less positive. May I suggest that in the present dispute it is not just Britain which is on the wrong side, but any European who values freedom and respects those who fought, and died, to preserve it.

Yours faithfully,
ROGER R. COOK,
St Georges, High Street,
Barkway, Hertfordshire.

From Mr A. N. Allott

Sir, For the Spanish to claim their "rights" to plunder and exhaust yet another fishing ground, and for the European Union to characterise the Canadians' attempt to stop them as "piracy", is cynical and hypocritical in the first case, and pathetically naive in the second.

On a visit to Namibia earlier this month I was told by a senior overseas aid worker that Spanish vessels, in total breach of that country's exclusive rights, had been systematically fishing its coastal waters. Namibia, given the length of its coastline and its lack of any patrol craft, was unable to prevent this. The situation was cured by the Canadian Government's enlightened generosity in donating patrol vessels and a helicopter to Namibia. I was told that one Spanish vessel illegally fishing had already been detained by the Namibian authorities.

The sooner international law recognises a duty on every state to protect international fishing resources, wherever located, the better. These are part of the common heritage of mankind. Once lost, they will be gone for ever.

Yours faithfully,
A. N. ALLOTT,
Sorbrook Mill, Bodicote,
Banbury, Oxfordshire.

From Professor M. N. Montgomery

Sir, May I suggest some fundamental points concerning the current dispute that have been inadequately addressed by the UK media.

1. Although now a constituent member of the North American Free Trade Association, Canada remains the major and conspicuously most loyal of all Commonwealth countries and deserves diplomatic succour irrespective of competitive European priorities.
2. The Canadian case is scarcely different from the issue of the "Irish box" in terms of defence against predators who understand little and care less for problems of non-renewable natural resources.
3. Canadian Fisheries Minister, Brian Tobin, is very aware historically of how Newfoundland has been depleted economically by the transnational plundering of primary resource products for added-value processing and sale elsewhere. This is an equally neglected issue in both fisheries and energy areas in the UK.

HMG could do well to learn from the belated conversion of Ottawa.

Yours,
MALCOLM MONTGOMERY,
139 Broomhill Road, Aberdeen.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

Taking issue with allegations of bias against the BBC

From the Archdeacon of York

Sir, Anyone who dips a toe into public controversy, whether political, ecclesiastical or whatever, must expect to be challenged and be ready to defend their position. BBC programmes such as *Radio 4's Today* and television's *Newsnight* make precisely that challenge and do it well. I believe the present ministerial attack, in particular on John Humphrys, one of the *Today* presenters (report, March 27; Woodrow Wyatt, March 28), to be without justification.

On several occasions I have been interviewed, sometimes fiercely and probingly, by both Jeremy Paxman, of *Newsnight*, and John Humphrys, and have always welcomed their style and admired their professionalism. Controversial views deserve to be contested in this way. The stronger the attack the better I like it, for it forces me to examine my views and defend (if I can) the position I have taken.

Moreover, as a regular contributor to *Thought for the Day*, I have had a greater opportunity than most listeners to observe John Humphrys and his colleagues in action. I am left wondering whether those who complain have found themselves attempting to defend what proved under questioning to be indefensible.

Yours etc,
GEORGE AUSTIN,
7 Lang Road,
Bishopthorpe, York.
March 27.

From Mr Ian Curteis

Sir, "While it is right that the accepted orthodoxies should be challenged, equally it is essential that the established view should be fully and clearly put" — the 1977 Annan Committee report on the Future of Broadcasting, p 269.

Were John Humphrys, Jeremy Paxman and others to observe both sides of this simple formula when interviewing Ministers, instead of just one, we would respect their professionalism somewhat more than we do at present.

Yours truly,
IAN CURTEIS.
The Mill House, Coln St Aldwyns,
Cirencester, Gloucestershire.
March 28.

From the General Secretary of the TUC

Sir, I was John Humphrys's first interviewee at an education rally and lobby of Parliament on March 21 to protest against education cuts. After a brief three-minute speech to the rally, I was pressed hard by Mr Humphrys along the following lines: "How would you propose we pay for better education standards?", and "If the TUC would make education a priority for increased public spending, what areas would be downgraded in order to free the extra money?"

These were certainly not the soft, slow, full tosses that Jonathan Aitken seems to crave. Mr Humphrys was true to himself and the best traditions of the BBC.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN MONKS,
General Secretary,
Trades Union Congress,
Congress House,
Great Russell Street, WC1.
March 28.

From Mr David Dimbleby and Mr Jonathan Dimbleby

Sir, Woodrow Wyatt's claim that when Richard Dimbleby was the presenter of BBC's *Panorama* and he was a member of the reporting team "everyone knew Richard was a Tory" is unconvincing. As far as we know, *Richard Dimbleby never told anyone* how he voted.

Neither of us knew, none of his friends knew, none of his colleagues has ever claimed to know. It seems unlikely that he would have confided only in Lord Wyatt.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID DIMBLEBY,
JONATHAN DIMBLEBY.
14 King Street, Richmond, Surrey.
March 28.

From Miss Elizabeth Stockwell

Sir, British Rail were baffled by "the wrong sort of snow" and it now appears that the Tories are equally flummoxed by "the wrong sort of questions".

Is there a possibility that the British Government may be being run by the wrong sort of politician?

Yours faithfully,
ELIZABETH STOCKWELL,
Bourn House, South Knighton,
Newton Abbot, Devon.

From Sir David Nicholas

Sir, When I first edited election coverage for ITN in the 1960s, I was given the following advice by a veteran political reporter. "Remember David", he said, "the political party which loses the election goes down clutching the testicles of television in its hand".

Yours sincerely,
DAVID NICHOLAS
(Chairman, Independent Television News, 1989-91),
Lodge Stables,
28 Kidbrooke Park Road, SE3.

Need for a directive from Brussels on hallmarking

From the Chief Executive, National Association of Goldsmiths, and the Chief Executive, British Jewellers' Association

Sir, Your report (March 28) on the latest pressure from Europe for a new standard for precious metals does not point out that the whole jewellery industry in the UK — manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers — is in disagreement with the Assay Offices and has been urging upon HM Government for some time the need for an EU hallmarking directive in the interests of consumer protection.

The UK consumer has been at risk since September 1994, when the European Court of Justice gave its "Houtwipper" judgment, which is in conflict with the UK 1973 Hallmarking Act. Amongst other things, the Houtwipper judgment ruled that "equivalent" hallmarks from any member state (equivalence to be decided by the national courts) can now be legally sold in the UK.

This probably means that precious metal articles hallmarked in France, Ireland, Spain, Portugal, The Netherlands, Austria, Finland, Sweden (and possibly Belgium and Denmark as well) can be legally sold in the UK in defiance of the 1973 Act — some of them with lower purity levels not recognised by the Act.

There is no single reference book listing all the "equivalent" hallmarks, and rulings from the British courts will only be revealed over a long period. One needs to refer to a number of books, some difficult to obtain or out of print, to try to establish what may be legally sold. This highly confusing situation offers an open invitation to the possibility of fraud, which might well bring the whole jewellery trade into disrepute.

The UK jewellery retailer is being placed in an impossible position, as are UK consumers and the UK regulatory authorities.

That is why we urgently need a directive. It would be extremely sad if special pleading by the Assay Offices is allowed to perpetuate for longer than necessary the present position.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL SANDERSON,
Chief Executive,
National Association of Goldsmiths,
DAVID GEORGE,
Chief Executive,
British Jewellers' Association,
c/o 78a Luke Street, EC2.
March 28.

From Mr Eric S. Poyser

Sir, I write as a member of the British Hallmarking Council since its inception in 1974, and the president of the Harmonisation Commission of the Confédération Internationale de la Bijouterie, Joaillerie et Orfèvrerie (CIBJO), the international jewellery association.

The world's jewellery industry needs a clear, safe and well regulated framework, and the UK industry worked relentlessly to ensure the passing of the Hallmarking Act at a time when the British hallmark was in jeopardy because of the feeling that the Trade Descriptions Act was sufficient.

Since that time, cases in the European Court of Justice, culminating in Houtwipper, have led to confusion in the UK and other member states, and CIBJO has therefore pressed the European Union to agree a directive to give the industry a clear law.

In recent European negotiations the UK has been extremely successful in retaining all the finenesses for gold, 9ct, 14ct, 18ct and 22ct, which we use, together with sterling silver and our fineness for platinum. In addition, all the important features of the British hallmark have been retained.

The directive, to be discussed in Brussels on Thursday, does allow other forms of marking, but these marks are controlled. The consumer will be better protected with a directive than without one. This directive will still allow consumers the freedom to choose articles bearing the British hallmark, and the opportunity to co-operate with this directive should be grasped with both hands. It is more favourable to the UK than to any other member state.

Yours faithfully,
ERIC S. POYSER,
Old Vicarage,
Woodborough,
Nottingham.
March 28.

Doorstep delivery

From Mr Simon Dobbs

Sir, The problem most people have with doorstep milk deliveries (letters, March 29) is not the price (they would gladly pay extra for the service) but the fact that they occur after everyone has left home, and the milk sits on the doorstep all day long. Modern production methods mean that milk will last a week if kept in a refrigerator, so delivery time could be in the early evening. Why not combine it with the evening paper and fresh bread?

Yours,
S. T. DOBBS,
3 Warwick Close,
Market Harborough, Leicestershire.

Practical medicine

From Mr John M. Mutch

Sir, Mr Ronald Boxall's light-hearted reaction (letter, March 27) to Dr Stuttaford's accessible articles on medical matters might suggest that in essence they are for entertainment rather than education. Dr Stuttaford knows, from a letter of profound thanks I sent him last year, that one of his articles enabled me to recover health and return to work in a few weeks. I can only say from my own experience that self-diagnosis is better than no diagnosis.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN M. MUTCH,
3 Pitch Pond Close, Knotty Green,
Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire.

Independent schools

From the Headmaster of Eastbourne College

Sir, On the same day your Education Editor wrote on "single-sex schooling at risk" within the independent sector (report, March 20), Eastbourne College announced that it too, in response to parental wishes, is to become fully co-educational from September 1996.

Parents want a school environment for their sons and daughters which mirrors a world where both sexes compete equally. Almost all our feeder schools are co-educational and parents, having seen successful integration at the prep school level, increasingly want it to continue throughout their children's time at a senior school.

Far from "faltering", the trend to co-education within independent boarding schools is gathering momentum in line with changing parental attitudes and expectations, and the convenience of having all the children in the family educated in the same place.

Yours sincerely,
CHARLES BUSH,
Headmaster's House,
Old Wish Road,
The College,
Eastbourne, East Sussex.
March 23.

Water efficiency

From the Chairman of the Water Services Association

Sir, Last Monday's BBC *Panorama* (report, March 27; Dr Jack Cunningham's letter, March 29) completely ignored benefits that the water industry has brought to the economy, environment and to the health of future generations.

It said nothing about the £15 billion that have been invested in capital projects for water and for sewerage over the last five years. Nor of the massive continuing investment planned for the next decade. The quality of drinking water is now higher than ever before and is one of the highest in Europe. This is endorsed by the Drinking Water Inspectorate.

The quality of our rivers has improved significantly. At least 95 per cent of sewage treatment works now meet the performance standards laid down by the National Rivers Authority, compared with 83 per cent in 1988.

Overall, thanks to greater efficiency by the ten water and sewerage companies, on whose behalf I write, customers' bills will rise less over the coming five years than during the past five years.

The water industry has made huge advances in a very short time in greater efficiency, in improved water quality and environmental performance and in building a new water and sewerage system which will benefit our children and grandchildren. This is the real panorama.

The BBC built its programme on a false proposition. Its allegation that the water companies have improperly siphoned off, into profits, money from customers' bills earmarked for renewal of the sewerage infrastructure is not true.

The amount spent on infrastructure renewal has exceeded substantially what was forecast in 1989. It is true that the amount spent has been less than the amount set aside from customers' bills, but this was always expected. The amount underspent has been properly provided for in company balance sheets to allow for future expenditure.

Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS HOOD, Chairman,
Water Services Association,
1 Queen Anne's Gate, SW1.
March 29.

Too hot to handle

From Mrs Hazel Rice

Sir, While on holiday in one of the more remote regions of Wales earlier this month I had some difficulty in finding a copy of *The Times*.

I was told that this was due to distribution difficulties "caused by global warming". In view of the prevailing weather conditions this seemed unlikely.

Yours sincerely,
HAZEL RICE,
25 Burford Gardens,
Palmers Green, N13.
March 26.

Sports letters, page 41

publication and are accepted subject to

fence, and they continued throughout the first

from the race at the Canal Turn.

From that point the race was between three horses. Fence after fence Reynoldstown and

have been won by one family; Major Furlong owns and trains the winner, who was ridden by his son.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

March 29: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh were represented by General Sir John Wilsey (Aide-de-Camp General) at the Memorial Service for General Sir Victor FitzGeorge-Balfour (formerly Aide-de-Camp General) which was held in the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks, London SW1, today.

March 29: The Prince Edward, Trustee, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, this evening attended a Musical Soiree at Buckingham Palace.

CLARENCE HOUSE

March 29: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother today honoured the President (Sir Christopher Collett) and members of the City of London Sheriffs' Society with her presence at luncheon at Saddlers' Hall.

The Countess of Scarbrough and Sir Alastair Aird were in attendance.

ST JAMES'S PALACE

March 29: The Prince of Wales, Founder and President, The Prince of Wales's Institute of Architecture, this morning presided at a Council Meeting at St James's Palace.

His Royal Highness afterwards presented Diplomas to students who successfully completed courses at the Institute of Architecture in 1994.

The Prince of Wales this afternoon attended the Conference on "Britain in the World" at the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre, London, SW1.

Mr Stephen Lamport was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE

March 29: Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, President, the Ladies Guild of the St John Ophthalmic Hospital, this afternoon received the Hon Mrs Julian Berry, Chairman of the Guild.

YORK HOUSE

March 29: The Duke of Kent, President, the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, this afternoon left Madras for Colombo to inspect war graves in Sri Lanka.

Mr Nicolas Adamson was in attendance.

The Duchess of Kent, Patron, this morning opened the new Head Office of the Cancer and Leukaemia in Childhood Trust, Wimpole Street, London W1.

Mrs Julian Tomkins was in attendance.

Today's royal engagements

The Princess Royal, as Patron of SENSE, the National Deafblind and Rubella Association, will attend a reception at the 40th anniversary conference at Church House Conference Centre, SW1, at 12.45 and launch the "SENSE Awards" scheme; as Past Master of the Farriers' Company, will attend the Institute of Farriery Planning Committee meeting at Guildhall at 2.55; and, as Master of the Woolmen's Company, will attend the Lord Mayor's Banquet for Masters of Livery Companies at the Mansion House at 7.25.

Princess Margaret will open Charityfair 95 at the Business Design Centre, Islington, at noon.

The Duke of Gloucester, Grand Prior of the Order of St John, will visit the headquarters of St John Ambulance at 1 Grosvenor Crescent, SW1, at 2.00.

The Duchess of Kent, as Patron of UNICEF UK, will present the Champion Children awards at the London Television Centre, EC1, at 7.15.

The Duchess of Kent is to succeed Viscount Tonypandy as President of NCH Action For Children.

Queen Charlotte's Birthday Ball 1995

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother has graciously accepted to be Patron of the 1995 Queen Charlotte's Birthday Ball. The Chairman and the Special Trustees of Queen Charlotte's & Chelsea Hospital announce that the Ball will be held on Monday, September 25, at Grosvenor House.

Birthdays today

Lord Armstrong of Ilminster, 68; Mr Warren Beatty, actor, 58; Lord Browne-Wilkinson, 65; Mr Eric Clapton, guitarist, 50; Mr J.F. Coates, naval architect, 73; Miss Sue Cook, broadcaster, 46; Mr George Esson, former Chief Constable, Dumfries and Galloway, 53; Professor Sir Ernst Gombrich, OM, former director, Warburg Institute, 86; Mr John Gosden, racehorse trainer, 64; Sir John Gray, marine biologist, 77; Mr Rolf Harris, entertainer, 65; Mr Alan Jackson, chief executive, BTR, 59; Mr J.S. Jennings, chairman, Shell Transport and Trading Company, 58; Professor Ron Johnston, Vice-Chancellor, Essex University, 54; Mr Nigel Jones, MP, 47; Professor M.A. King, economist, 47; Sir Ian MacLaurin, chairman, Tesco, 58; Mr Piers Morgan, Editor, *News of the World*, 30; Mr Brendan O'Friel, chairman, Prison Governors Association, 54; Lord Rayner, 69; Mr Tom Sharpe, novelist, 67; the Rev David Staple, General Secretary of the Free Church Federal Council, 65; the Countess of Sutherland, 74; Lord Tanlaw, 61; General Sir Richard Trant, 67; Sir John Wells, former MP, 70; Professor A.J. Zuckerman, Dean, Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine, 63.

Captain Robert Wolrige Gordon of Esslemont

The Memorial Service for Captain R. Wolrige Gordon of Esslemont will take place in St Mary's Cathedral, Palmerston Place, Edinburgh, on Monday, April 10, 1995, at 2.30pm.

School news

Clayesmore School

Clayesmore School has announced the Clayesmore Centenary 1896 - 1996 with an Appeal aimed at raising funds by the end of 1995 for an all-weather hockey pitch/tennis courts and a pavilion. The Appeal is a curtain raiser to the Centenary Celebrations in 1996. Sincere thanks go to Old Clayesmorians who have already given generously and supported the Appeal. Major research is now under way to update Old Clayesmorian records and OC's are invited to write to the School with contact details. Clayesmore School, Iwerne Minster, Blandford Forum, Dorset, DT11 8LL.

Latymer Upper School, W6

Latymer Upper School held its Centenary Gala Concert last Saturday evening at Westminster Central Hall, led by The Director of Music, Mr Richard Hobson. The School Orchestra and choirs were joined by the orchestras of The Godolphin & Latymer School and The Johanneum, Hamburg; and The Latymer & Godolphin Choral Society. The Headmaster held a Tea Reception for Governors, Staff and other guests prior to the Concert, at the East India Club.

Old Latymerians are warmly invited to the Founder's Day Service in St Paul's Cathedral on Thursday, May 25, and to contact the School for further details of this year's Centenary celebrations.

KIPPA MATTHEWS



To mark the bicentenary of the Band of The Life Guards, the Royal Military School of Music carried out its regular inspection of the band on horseback for the first time in Hyde Park yesterday. Colonel Tim Hoggarth, from the school, which is based at Kneller Hall, Twickenham, was the inspecting officer

Peter Nichols

A plaque in memory of Peter Nichols, *The Times* correspondent in Rome for 30 years until his death in 1989, has been erected on the wall of the house where he lived in Bracciano, a fishing village north of the Italian capital. The plaque was unveiled by the Mayor of Bracciano at a ceremony attended by Mr Nichols's widow, the actress Paola Rosi, and their son David.

Luncheons

City of London Sheriffs' Society

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother was present at a luncheon of the City of London Sheriffs' Society held yesterday at Saddlers' Hall. Alderman Sir Christopher Collett, Lord Mayor *locum tenens*, president of the society, Commander and Alderman Sir Robin and Lady Gillett and the Master of the Saddlers' Company and Mrs Pulley received the guests.

Carlton Club

Mr David Hunt, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Minister of Public Service and Science, was the guest of honour and speaker at a luncheon of the Carlton Club Political Committee held yesterday at the club. Sir Brian Goswell, chairman of the committee, presided. Mr P. James Butler also spoke.

Dinners

1912 Club

Mr David Amess, MP, was guest of honour at a dinner of the 1912 Club held last night at the House of Commons by courtesy of Mr Roger Sims, MP, chairman of the club. Mr Alan Hurdley also spoke.

1995 National Art Collections Fund Awards

Sir Nicholas Goodison, Chairman, of the National Art Collections Fund and Mr David Barrie, Director, were the hosts at a dinner for the 1995 National Art Collections Fund Awards held at the Savoy Hotel, on Wednesday, March 29. The Awards were given to curators, educators and administrators for outstanding achievement in the visual arts and were sponsored for the third year by the Jerwood Foundation.

Royal Navy

Senior appointments

Vice Admiral Sir Michael Boyce to be Flag Aide-de-Camp to The Queen in succession to Admiral Sir Michael Layard on May 25.

Vice Admiral M.G. Rutherford appointed to Second Sea Lord/Commander-in-Chief Naval Home Command to lead a Study Team from May 2 to August 4.

Memorial services

General Sir Victor FitzGeorge-Balfour

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh were represented by General Sir John Wilsey at a memorial service for General Sir Victor FitzGeorge-Balfour held yesterday in the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks. The Rev Roy McAllen officiated and the Rev Beverley Warren Coleman led the prayers. Mr Gerard Chichester, godson, read the lesson and Mr Robin FitzGeorge-Balfour, son, read Cardinal Newman's *Plain and Parochial Sermons*. Lieutenant-General Sir Anthony Mullens gave an address. The Lord Lieutenant of West Sussex and Lady Ward attended. Among others present were:

Miss Diana FitzGeorge-Balfour (daughter), Mrs Robin FitzGeorge-Balfour (daughter-in-law), Mr George FitzGeorge-Balfour, Miss Sophie FitzGeorge-Balfour and Charlotte and Victor FitzGeorge-Balfour (grandchildren), Mrs Derek Wigan (sister-in-law), Mr and Mrs N R Balfour, Mr and Mrs Richard Barnfylde, Colonel Sir Brian Barrington (also representing the Blue Seal Club), Mrs Mike Chetwynd, Mrs Gerard Chichester, Mr Charles Chichester, Mr Harry Chichester, Mr Ewan Christian, Sir Peter and Lady Daniell, Mrs C Gordon Martin, Mr and Mrs John Henderson, Mrs E Merck, Mrs J Merck, Mr A Merck, Mr and Mrs David Naylor-Leyland, Mr and Mrs J C Norman, Mr and Mrs T Pilkington, Mrs R Saunders, Mr and Mrs R Scrivener, Mrs R Shillington-Balfour, Mrs Christopher Stockwell, Lady Watson, Mr Michael Wigan.

The Duchess of Wellington, the Marquess and Marchioness of Abergavenny, Penelope Marchioness of Zetland, Major-General Lord Michael Fitzalan Howard, Viscount Allenby, Viscount and Viscountess Esher, Viscountess Eccles, Lord Suffield, Lord and Lady Hill-Norton, Lord Digby, Lord Alvingham, Lord Hambro, Lord Cullen of Ashbourne, Lieutenant-General the Hon Sir William Rous (representing the Coldstream Guards) and Lady Rous with other members of the regiment, Brigadier the Hon Christopher Willoughby, the Hon Richard Beaumont, Sir James and Lady Henry, Major-General Sir John Younger, Nancy Lady Smiley, Brigadier Sir Jeffrey Darell, Brigadier Sir Gilbert and Lady Heathcote, Admiral Sir Rae McKaig, General Sir Charles and Lady Harington, General Sir Anthony and Lady Read, General Sir Thomas and Lady Pearson, General Sir Desmond Fitzpatrick (representing the Blues and Royals), General Sir Richard Worsley, General Sir Michael Wilkes (Colonel Commandant HAC) with Major William Hunt with other members of the company, General Sir David Fraser, General Sir Brian Kenny, General Sir George Cooper, Vice-Admiral Sir John and Lady Martin, Lieutenant-General Sir James Wilson, Lieutenant-General Sir Maurice Johnston, Major-General Sir George Burns, Sir Greville Sprot (chairman Action Research) and Lady Sprot with Mrs Anne Luther (director-general), Sir John Beith, Sir Michael and Lady Walker, Lady (John) Prideaux, Lady Tram, Lady Mullens.

Captain N J C and Lady Serena Kentlewell, Major David and Lady Willa Chenevix, Lieutenant-Colonel and the Hon Mrs James Innes, Major and the Hon Mrs John Wills, Prince and Princess Emmanuel Galitzine, Major-General Ronald Buckland, Major-General P R Leuchars, Major-General D Toler, Major-General Michael Hicks, Major-General C S Wallis-King, Brigadier and Mrs Raoul Lempriere-Robin, Brigadier and Mrs Anthony Heywood, Brigadier P Stewart-Richardson, Brigadier Richard Heywood, Brigadier and Mrs C M A Mayes, Colonel W Gore-Langton, Colonel Andrew Brearley Smith, Colonel Malcolm Havergal, Lieutenant-Colonel D J Daly, Lieutenant-Colonel J R Innes, Lieutenant-Colonel J H P Johnston, Major Mark Hibbert-Hingston, Major and Mrs William Seymour, Major P Holdsworth Hunt, Major John Cole, Major and Mrs Digby Bell, Major Guy Peace, Major C E Page, Mr Moray Stewart, Mr Roger Daniell, Mr Anthony Irby, Mr Thomas Kelly, Mr and Mrs M Scrase-Dickins, Mr and Mrs Christopher James, Mr and Mrs Charles Irby, Mr Richard Anstey, Mrs Diana Langdale.

Mr F Hohler, Mr and Mrs Patrick Brenan, Professor W I McDonald, Mrs Geoffrey White, Mr Ranald Boyle, Mr Julian Gibbs, Mr Roy Tiley, Mr Ian Fraser, Mr R Faure Walker, Mr Richard Boggis Rolfe, Mrs Ian Fitzalan Howard, Mrs C Prideaux, Dr M Cowgill, Mr John Palmer, Mr Peter Irby, Mrs J S Holdsworth Hunt, Mr Brian Kingham, Mrs Betty Kenward, Mr J Fleming, Mr Ludovic de Walden, Mrs Alice Cleland, Dr and Mrs John Ford.

Major W B Harris, QC, (Sussex branch, Coldstream Association), Brigadier M O'Cock (Irish Guards), Colonel B A Kay (HAC Saddle Club), Major A Hagan (RAC), Mr Richard Craig (representing the Inspector General Royal Malayan Police), Captain D Horn (Guards Museum), Major-General T Boam (British Consultants Bureau) and Mr Richard Greenwood (Sussex Club).

The Hon Mrs Macauley

A memorial service for the Hon Mrs Macauley was held yesterday at Christ Church, Victoria Road, W8. The Rev Ian Robson, Dean and Vicar of Kensington, officiated. Mr Rupert Macauley, son, read the lesson and Mr Mark Macauley, son, read a poem by Lord Tennyson. Surgeon Rear-Admiral Ronald Snow gave an address.

Church news

Resignations and retirements

The Rev Stanley Montgomery, Priest-in-charge, Hitcham w Little Finborough, and recently of Kettlebaston and Preston (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich): retired as from March 3.

The Rev Brian Ralph, Curate, St Michael and All Angels, Yeovil (Bath and Wells): resigned as from February 28, to work with the homeless in London.

The Rev John Ryall, Vicar, St Michael, Shalfleet and Rector, All Saints, Calbourne w Holy Spirit, Newtown, Isle of Wight (Portsmouth): to retire as from May 1.

The Rev Colin Wall, Priest-in-charge, The Good Shepherd, Lake and St Saviour, Shanklin, Isle of Wight (Portsmouth): to resign as from June 30.

The Rev John Williams, Chaplain for Tourism and Priest-in-charge, St John the Evangelist, Perlethorpe and St Mary's, Norton Cuckney (Southwell): to retire from June 30.

The Rev Kenneth Walker, Honorary Assistant Priest, Ashbury, Compton Beauchamp, Longcot w Fernham (Oxford): retired in 1994.

The Rev David Wilcox, Rector, Kirtlington w Bletchingdon, Weston-on-the-Green and Hampton Gay (Oxford): to retire as from March 31.

Other appointments

Mr David Adeney, Executive Director of Tear Fund, to be Diocesan Secretary, diocese of Norwich.

Miss Clare Mouat to be Communications Manager and Bishop's Press Officer, diocese Chelmsford.

Church in Wales

Diocese of Llandaff

The Rev Paul Hywel Morgans, Curate of Caerau w Ely, to be Vicar of Penrhe, St Peter.

The Rev Dawn Yvonne Lorraine Hellard, Curate of Llantwit Major, to be Vicar in the Rectorial Benefice of Cowbridge.

Retirement

The Rev Derek Arthur Vivian Frayne, Rector of Canton St John, to retire on April 16.

Diocese of Bangor

The Rev Peter Gledhill, who has retired as a Stipendiary Curate for the Rural Deanery of Menai and Malltraeth, to be Non-Stipendiary Curate in the Rural Deanery of Menai and Malltraeth.

The Rev Ioan Wynne Jones, Curate of Caernarfon, to be Cleric-in-Charge of Glanogwen.

Lecture

Byron Society

Dr Duncan Wu delivered a lecture to the Byron Society at the St Ermin's Hotel last night. Mr Kenneth Pritchard-Jones, Chairman of the Keats-Shelley Memorial Association, presided and Lord Abinger, a vice president of the society, also spoke.

Institute of Physics

The 1995 Hewlett-Packard Europhysics Prize has been presented to Professor Yakir Aharonov, Tel Aviv University, and Professor Michael V. Berry, Bristol University.

Royal Society of Edinburgh

The following have been elected Fellows of the Society:

R J Aitken, MRC Special Appointment, Centre for Reproductive Biology, Edinburgh; K J Anderson, formerly Depute Principal, Napier Univ; M Anderson, Professor of Politics, Edinburgh Univ; T J Anderson, Reader in Pathology, Edinburgh Univ

M J Baker, Professor and Chairman of Strathclyde Graduate Business School, Strathclyde Univ; A Balmain, Director of Research & Professor of Medical Oncology, Glasgow Univ; N H Barton, Darwin Trust Professional Fellow, Institute of Cell, Animal & Population Biology, Edinburgh Univ; J D Beggs, Royal Society Senior Research Fellow, Inst of Cell & Molecular Biology, Edinburgh Univ; P G Bruce, Professor of Chemistry, St Andrews Univ; R M Burnall, Professor of Computer Science, Edinburgh Univ

D C Carter, Regius Professor of Clinical Surgery, Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh and Edinburgh Univ; A P Cohen, Professor of Social Anthropology, Edinburgh Univ; M J Conti, Roman Catholic Bishop of Aberdeen; J Davenport, Director, The University Marine Biological Station, Isle of Cumbrae and Professor of Marine Biology, London Univ; P A Davies, Personal Chair, Department of Civil Engineering, Dundee Univ; R R Dickson, Head, Physical Oceanography, MAFF Fisheries Laboratory, Lowestoft; C M Duffus, Vice-Dean, Scottish Agricultural College, Edinburgh

D W Garland, Professor of Penology, Centre for Criminology and Social and Philosophical Study of Law, Edinburgh Univ; A F Garvie, Reader in Greek and Head of the Department of Classics, Glasgow Univ; W M Gordon, Douglas Professor of Civil Law, Glasgow Univ; J J Haldane, Reader in Moral Philosophy, St Andrews Univ; G Hall, Reader in Mathematics, Aberdeen Univ; G P Havergal, Director, Citizens' Theatre, Glasgow; Sir Russell Hillhouse, Permanent Under Secretary of State, Scottish Office; M L Hutchman, Young Professor of Chemistry and Head of Chemical Technology Section, Strathclyde Univ; R F Holloway, Bishop of Edinburgh and Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church, Edinburgh

C Jones, Forbes Professor of English Language, Edinburgh Univ; L J F Keppie, Senior Curator (Archaeology & History) & Reader, Hunterian Museum, Glasgow Univ; J Kirk, Reader in Scottish History, Glasgow Univ; P R Laybourn, Titular Professor & Head, Department of Electronics and Electrical Engineering, Glasgow Univ; D N Lee, Professor of Perception, Action and Development, Edinburgh Univ; F Y Liew, Gardiner Professor of Immunology and Head of Department of Immunology, Glasgow Univ; M Lynch, Sir William Fraser Professor of Scottish History and Palaeography, Edinburgh Univ

A J Macintyre, Professor of Mathematical Logic, Mathematical Institute, Oxford; D Mack, Reader in English and Publishing Studies, Stirling Univ; H L MacQueen, Professor of Private Law, Edinburgh Univ; J K Mason, Honorary Fellow, Faculty of Law and Regius Emeritus Professor, Edinburgh Univ; J F McClelland, Vice-President, Digital Equipment Ltd, Irvine; M D McLeod, Director and Titular Professor, Hunterian Museum & Art Gallery, Glasgow Univ; A S McNeilly, Deputy Director, MRC Reproductive Biology Unit, Centre for Reproductive Biology, Edinburgh; R J Mercer, Secretary, Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland, Edinburgh; R J Nelmes, Senior SERC Fellow and Professorial Fellow, Department of Physics, Edinburgh Univ

R A Paxton, Honorary Professor, Heriot-Watt Univ & Chairman, the Institution of Civil Engineering Panel for Historical Engineering Works; K P Pearson, Headmaster, George Heriot's School, Edinburgh; J L Reid, Regius Professor of Medicine and Therapeutics, Glasgow Univ and Honorary Consultant Physician, Western Infirmary, Glasgow; M J Rennie, Symers Professor of Physiology, Dundee Univ; E Renshaw, Professor of Statistics, Strathclyde Univ; T B Royle, Associate Editor, *Scotland on Sunday* (Defence, International Affairs), Scotsman Newspapers, Edinburgh

D S Saunders, Professor of Insect Physiology & Head of Institute of Cell, Animal and Population Biology, Edinburgh Univ; H R Schaffer, Emeritus Professor, Department of Psychology, Strathclyde Univ; R D Scott, Director, Scottish Universities Research and Reactor Centre, East Kilbride; P J Sharp, Head, Department of Reproduction and Development, AFRC Roslin Institute; D G Smith, Professor of Communications Engineering and Head of Department of Electronic and Electrical Engineering, Strathclyde Univ; John Spence, Professor of Mechanics of Materials, Strathclyde Univ; Sir Stewart Sutherland, Principal and Vice-Chancellor, Edinburgh Univ

J C Walton, Reader in Organic Chemistry, St Andrews Univ; K J Watt, Professor and Head of Department of Psychology, Stirling Univ; G Webb, Professor of Chemistry, Chairman of the Department of Chemistry and Head of the Chemistry Planning Unit, Glasgow Univ; C B Wolf, Director, Univ of Dundee Biomedical Research Centre and Honorary Director, ICRF Molecular Pharmacology Unit, Ninewells Hospital, Dundee; A M Ziolkowski, Professor of Petroleum Geoscience, Edinburgh Univ.

Honorary candidates

A Howie, Professor of Physics & Head of Cavendish Laboratory, Cambridge Univ; B Millan, Commissioner of European Union, Commission of the European Communities, Brussels; A Morrocco, professional artist, Dundee; Dame Muriel Spark, novelist and writer.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr N.R. Bunn and Miss J.L. Robb

The engagement is announced between Nicholas, eldest son of Mr Richard H. Bunn, of Reigate, Surrey, and Mrs Maureen Zenthon, of Kenley, Surrey, and Jane, only daughter of Mr and Mrs John W. Robb, of Oxshott, Surrey.

Flight Lieutenant P.A. Humphrey and Miss C.E.M. Grace

The engagement is announced between Paul, younger son of Mr and Mrs George Humphrey, of Solihull, and Charlotte, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Brian Grace, of Grantham, Lincolnshire.

Mr D.W.C. Ip and Miss P. Lam

The engagement is announced between David, elder son of Mr and Mrs Chi Kow Ip, and Patricia, elder daughter of Mr Robert Lam and Ms Rebecca Lee.

Mr P.M. Morrisey and Miss K. Leeper

The engagement is announced between Philip, elder son of Mr and Mrs Peter Morrisey, of Brereton Green, Cheshire, and Kate, daughter of Dr and Mrs Richard Leeper, of Weston Turville, Buckinghamshire.

Mr J.D.C. Ross and Miss C.M. Still

The engagement is announced between James David Campbell, son of Mr and Mrs David Ross, of The Little Boltons, London, SW10, and Caroline Mary, daughter of Brigadier and Mrs Nigel Still, of Cornford, Hampshire.

Surgeon Lieutenant C.G. Streets, RN, and Dr C.A. Smith

The engagement is announced between Christopher, elder son of Mr and Mrs Christopher Streets, of Badgers Mount, Sevenoaks, Kent, and Carole, elder daughter of Mrs Muriel Smith and the late Dr Percy Smith, of Fenham, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

Mr P. Wozencroft and Miss K. Shears

The engagement is announced between Peter, youngest son of Mr and Mrs D.P. Wozencroft, of Monk Sherborne, Hampshire, and Karina, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Shears, of Bazemont, France.

Marriage

Mr J.C. Condon and Miss A.M. Green

The marriage took place on Wednesday, March 29, 1995 at St Paul's Church, Rusthall, Kent, between Mr John Clark Condon and Miss Ana-Maria Green.

A reception was held at The Spa Hotel, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Maimonides, philosopher and physician, Cordoba, Spain, 1135; Sir Henry Wotton, poet and diplomat, Boughton Malherbe, Kent, 1568; Jethro Tull, agricultural writer, Basildon, Berkshire, baptised this day, 1674; Francesco de Goya, painter, Fuendetodos, Spain, 1746; Charles Booth, shipowner and sociologist, Liverpool, 1840; Paul Verlaine, poet, Metz, France, 1844; Don Carlos, pretender to the Spanish throne, Ljubljana, 1848; Vincent van Gogh, painter, Zundert, The Netherlands, 1853; Sean O'Casey, dramatist, Dublin, 1880; Melanie Klein, psychoanalyst, Austria, 1882.

DEATHS: Sébastien Le Prestre de Vauban, military engineer, Paris, 1707; William Hunter, obstetrician and medical writer, London, 1783; George (Beau) Brummell, dandy, Caen, France, 1840; Rudolph Steiner, scientist and founder of anthroposophy, Dornach, Switzerland, 1925; Leonard Raven-Hill, artist and cartoonist, Ryde, Isle of Wight, 1942; Léon Blum, Premier of France 1936-37, Jouy-en-Josas, 1950; James Cagney, actor, New York State, 1986.

Ether was used as an anaesthetic for the first time by Dr Crawford Long in Jefferson, Georgia, 1842.

Americans Julius and Ethel Rosenberg were found guilty of passing atomic secrets to the Russians and sentenced to death, 1951.

Airey Neave, MP, was killed by a terrorist bomb in the House of Commons car park, 1979.

BMD'S: 0171 782 7272
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TRADE: 0171 481 1982
FAX: 0171 481 9313

We demolish sophistries and all that rears its proud head against the knowledge of God: we compel every human thought to surrender in obedience to Christ. 2 Corinthians 10 : 5 (REB).

BIRTHS

BARRACLOUGH - On March 2nd 1995, to Sally (née Frederickse) and Bruce, a son, George Luis.

BRIGGS - On 23rd March, to Rosey and Sandy, a son, Thomas William.

CAIRA - On 27th March 1995, to Paul and Donna (née West), a beautiful daughter, Frederica Beatrice, a first grandchild for Colin and Margaret and a long-awaited granddaughter for Connie and Vic. With many thanks to St George's staff.

CAPES - On 28th March, to Sarah and Johnny, a daughter, Nina Alice, a sister for Matthew.

CRICHTON-STUART - On 25th March, to Rowena and Jamie, a son, Rory.

DUNLOP - On 25th March at St Thomas' Hospital, to Saskia and Hugh, a daughter, Olivia Miranda.

HARRIS-BURLAND - On 21st March in Brussels William Thomas a son to William Martin and Helen (née Hunter-Smith) and brother for John David.

HOLT - See Turner.

BIRTHS

LECKIE - On March 26th, at the Lenox Hill Hospital, New York City, to Elizabeth (née O'Donnell) and Gavin, a daughter, Catriona Elizabeth, a sister for Hamish.

McEVOY-SWIFT - Jon and Heidi are delighted to announce the birth of Ethan Antony on Monday 13th March at West Suffolk Hospital, weighing 7lbs 1oz.

MUELHEIM - On March 25th at The Portland Hospital, to Claudia (née Wunderlich) and Stefan, a daughter, Saskia Sophie.

OSBORNE - On March 16th 1995, at Bristol Maternity Hospital, to Sue and Clarke, a daughter, Eloise Kathryn Poppy.

PANKHANIA - On March 26th at The Portland Hospital, to Bhagwanji and Sunita, a son, a brother for Nisha and Sima.

PARK - On March 24th 3.28am at The Portland Hospital, to Helen (née Lim) and Jangho, proud son, brother for Ju-Young. Congratulations.

STANISTREET NWAEGBE - On 3rd March 1995, to Susan and Louis, a beautiful daughter, Enya Brigette Bella.

TURNER - On March 27th, to Liz (née Holt) and Chris, a son, John Fisher (Jack), a brother for Tom.

BIRTHS

WELCH - On March 17th at The Portland Hospital, to Jennifer and Michael a true blessing, a beautiful daughter, Mackenzie Leigh.

WISE - On 26th March, to Sarah (née Harding) and Oliver, a daughter, Eleanor Lucy Constance.

YANDLE - On 21st March 1995, to Jo (née Rowell) and Peter, a beautiful daughter, Kate Harriet, a lovely sister for Alice and Emma.

DEATHS

ALLENBY - On March 27th 1995, suddenly in her sleep at home in Chandler's Ford, Hampshire, Alisa (née McLeod aged 46, formerly of Johannesburg). Beloved wife of David, devoted mother of James, carer for her Tribe and kind friendly ear to so many. Funeral Monday April 3rd 10 am, East Chapel, Southampton Crematorium. All enquiries and flowers to A.H. Rogers & Sons, 64 Market Street, Eastleigh, Hants. tel: (01703) 612435.

ANDERSON - Margaret Esmé, aged 93, widow of Thurgar Rolland, died peacefully in her sleep on March 27th at St Charles Hospital, W10. Funeral at East Chapel, West London Crematorium, Kensal Green, on Friday 7th April at 3.15pm. Family flowers or donations, if desired, to Crossroads Care, 19 Young Street, London W8 5EH. Enquiries to John Nodes 0181 969-1819.

ARNOLD - On 26th March, Hugh Ingram, much loved father of Virginia and Rum. Funeral Service at St Leonard's Church, Seaford, on Monday 3rd April at 2.15pm. No flowers please. Enquiries c/o Seaford and Newhaven Funeral Service, tel: (01323) 893889.

BRADFORD - On 28th March 1995, peacefully at Melford Court Nursing Home, Long Melford, Shirley, loving wife of the late Lieutenant Colonel C.J. Bradford and much loved mother, mother-in-law and grandmother. Funeral Service at West Suffolk Crematorium, Bury St Edmunds, on Monday 3rd April at 3.45 pm.

CLARKE - David, on 27th March 1995, aged 52 years passed away peacefully at home, 18 Dawson Place, London W2, much loved son of Ronald Kenyon and Edith May, brother of Christopher and brother-in-law of Anne and uncle to Stephen and Emma, friend to many, in particular Conrad who nursed him with such care and devotion. Funeral at West London Crematorium, Harrow Road, Kensal Green 1.45 pm, Monday April 3rd. Family flowers only. Charitable donations, "Hospice at Home", c/o Boyd & Hutchinson, 136 Streatham High Road, London, SW16 1BW.

CROCKER - Barbara. See Whelpton.

DUNSDON - On March 24th 1995 peacefully at home David. Beloved husband of Stella, brother of Rita and father of John. Businessman and friend to many. Thanksgiving Service will be held at Christ Church, Esher Green, Esher, Surrey on Thursday 13th April at 12 noon. No flowers please. Donations, if desired, made payable to Kingston Hospital NHS Trust (Trust Fund) and sent c/o Mr K. Twycross, Messrs Iliffes Booth Bennett, 52 Coldharbour Lane, Hayes, Middlesex, UB3 3ER.

FAULKNER - On March 27th 1995, suddenly, William Patrick, a greatly loved husband of Dawn and loving father, father-in-law and grandfather. Funeral Service at Surrey and Sussex Crematorium, Worth, on Monday April 3rd at 4.30pm. No flowers by request but donations, if desired, for R.N.L.I. may be sent to Frank Davey & Co., 31 High Street, Hornsterpoint, West Sussex BN6 9TT, tel: (01273) 852179.

GRIFFIN - Michael Gerard, died suddenly on March 27th aged 56 years. Husband of Doreen, father to Mark, John, Michael and Helen. Funeral Mass at St Mary's Church, West Harptree, Bristol, on Saturday April 1st at 12 noon. Flowers or donations if preferred for British Heart Foundation, c/o Michael W. Rowe Funeral Director, Tunbridge Cottage, Chew Magna, Bristol BS18 8SP, tel: (0275) 332565.

HAYTER - On March 28th, Sir William Hayter, greatly loved husband, father, grandfather and brother, died suddenly at home. Small funeral on Friday March 31st at 3.30 pm at Stanton St John Village Church to be followed by Memorial Service at New College, Oxford, next term.

HEWSON - On March 23rd, Kathleen Griffith, aged 91 years, peacefully at home in Lodsworth. Loving wife of the late Commander W.G. Hewson, dearly loved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.

LAMBERT - On March 11th, aged 87, Edward Michael Lambert CBE. Dearly loved father of Rosemary, grandfather of Matthew and Luke, father-in-law of Michael, and devoted husband of the late Elsie. Thanksgiving Service at St James, Milton Abbas, on April 22nd at 11 am. Donations to St Peter's Research Trust, London W1P 7NP, or the RNLI.

LARCHER - Peacefully at home on 28th March 1995, Pamela Marjorie, beloved wife of John and much loved mother of David, Elizabeth and Caroline. Requiem Mass 10 am, Wednesday 5th April at St Mary's Priory, 254 Fulham Road, SW10. No flowers please.

MONTGOMERY - On March 26th 1995, peacefully in hospital, Michael Montgomery, much loved by his mother and many friends. Funeral Service at 11 am on Tuesday April 4th at St Mary's Church, Paddington Green, followed by cremation at Golders Green at 12 noon.

RAWSON - On Monday March 27th, suddenly at home, Douglas (Dougal) Gilmour Rawson O.B.E., Q.C. Beloved husband of the late Stella, much loved father of Ian and Nigel and devoted grandfather of Emma and Thomas. Funeral Service at Mortonhall Crematorium, Pentland Chapel, on Friday March 31st at 2.15 pm. Family flowers only please.

STANBURY - On 28th March 1995, Ronald William Walker, husband of Coorn, father of Rupert, died peacefully after a long illness at St Andrew's Hospital, Northampton, aged 86.

TENNANT - On March 27th 1995 at Yeovil Hospital, Stephen Godfrey of Sturminster Newton, Dorset, aged 86 years. Loving and dearly beloved husband of Rosemary and father of Stephanie (deceased) and Adam. Cremation at Poole Crematorium on Tuesday 4th April at 12 noon for family only, followed by a Service of Thanksgiving for his life at St Nicholas Church, Marnston, near Sturminster Newton, Dorset at 2.30 pm. Enquiries to Colin J. Close Funeral Service, 1B Salisbury Street, Blandford, Dorset, tel: (01258) 453133.

WATSON - John E.T. Watson, much loved husband, father and grandfather, on 21st March at Macmillan Hospice, WGC. Family only cremation. Donations if wished to East Herts Hospice Care Service, QE2, Welwyn Garden City or Christ's Hospital, Horsham.

WATTS - On March 28th at Mount Stuart Hospital after a long illness bravely borne, John aged 83 years. Beloved husband of Jean, father of Christopher, stepfather to Sue. Funeral Service at Highweek Parish Church, Newton Abbot, on Tuesday April 4th at 1 pm. Family flowers only please. Donations for Alzheimer's Disease Society to Torbay and District Funeral Services Ltd., Wellswood House, 11 Babbacombe Road, St Marychurch, Torquay.

WHELPTON - On March 25th, in her 86th year, after a short illness, Barbara (née Crocker), widow of Eric Whelpton and dearly loved sister of Tim. Artist and Writer, she led a fantastically full and happy life and wished there to be no gloom in consequence of her death. Funeral Service St Mary's Church, Rye, 12.30 pm Tuesday April 4th, followed by cremation at Hastings. Flowers or donations in lieu to The Artists General Benevolent Institution c/o Ellis Bros, F/S, 3 Ferry Road, Rye, East Sussex.

WILLIAMS - Cyril James, FRICS, FIARB, died peacefully in Canterbury Hospital 27th March, aged 84. Loved husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. We will sorely miss him. Funeral to be held at the Church of Our Lady Immaculate, Northwood Road, Whitstable at 11am on Tuesday 4th April. Family flowers only but donations to Kent and Canterbury Hospital.

WINGFIELD - On March 25th, 1995, Margaret B. Wingfield, aged 93.. wife of the late Capt. A.E.F. Wingfield, and mother of the late Gervase and Patricia. Funeral at St Andrew's Parish Church, Ampthill, Beds., Tuesday, 4th April at 3 pm. Flowers to Neville Funeral Service, Flitwick Road, Ampthill, Beds.

WINSKI - On March 26th in Devon, Karol Witold MBE, ARICS, aged 94 years. For many years Crown Land Surveyor in Dominica, West Indies. Funeral Service at 10m on March 31st at Ilford Park Polish Home, Newton Abbot, Devon, followed by cremation at 2pm at Exeter Crematorium.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

GOODRICH - A Memorial Service for Gordon Goodrich M.C. will be held at St Paul's Church, Wilton Place, Knightsbridge, London SW1 on Tuesday 2nd May 1995 at 12 noon. All of his friends are very welcome.

BIRTHDAYS

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OBITUARIES

SIR WILLIAM HAYTER

Sir William Hayter, KCMG, Ambassador to Moscow, 1953-57, and Warden of New College, Oxford, 1958-76, died on March 28 aged 88. He was born on August 1, 1906.



WILLIAM HAYTER seemed marked out by training and character for an unbroken and highly successful conventional career in diplomacy. Outwardly he was a Wykehamist of the Wykehamists: Prefect of Hall at Winchester like his father before him, then a scholar at New College, Oxford; keeping always his faultless manners and a mind that worked efficiently and apparently without effort. Visitors would find him at a desk swept clear of all papers. Yet, as defined in the title of his autobiography, published in 1974, he was to have *A Double Life, rather to his own surprise.*

In 1958, only a few months after he left Moscow where he had been Ambassador for five years, he accepted his old college's invitation to come back to be its Warden. Nor was that to be the last phase. In a sense he was to have a triple life for, when he left New College after 18 years, it was not to go into obscure retirement. He wrote more: with his wife, Iris, he travelled extensively in China, India, and other parts of the world: and he kept up some of his varied committee work.

In every chapter of his long life the key to understanding him was in knowing that behind the conventional, imperturbable manner was a man of strong convictions that were humane, often unorthodox, and frequently left-of-centre politically. Anyone expecting from him an adroit diplomatic fudging of a problem would be forced to give full marks for a reply that was direct, unexpected and wholly refreshing. Wherever he and his wife were, whether abroad or in London, Oxford, or (latterly) Stanton St John, their house was a centre of old-fashioned courtesy and lively, new-fashioned sharing of ideas.

William Goodenough Hayter was the son of Sir William Goodenough Hayter, a judge of the Anglo-Egyptian service. On leaving Oxford, he entered the diplomatic service as a third secretary in October 1930. After a spell in Vienna, his first tour in Moscow was in the years 1934-37; then it was China for two years from 1938, and thereafter Washington, where he remained until 1944 before returning to the Foreign Office.

After being head of the Southern Department and then of the Service Liaison Department (gaining the rank of assistant under-secretary in February 1949), he was sent to the Paris Embassy as minister in September 1949.

In Paris he and his wife greatly distinguished themselves. It was, therefore, not altogether unexpected that in 1953 he should have been promoted to be Ambassador to Moscow. This was part of a new policy of the Foreign Office to appoint younger men to Moscow who had many years of service before them rather than keeping it as a last post for older men. Arriving there soon after Stalin's death, Hayter was able to take full advantage of the easier conditions which followed, and to establish far more normal contacts with the Russians than had been possible under the latter part of the old regime.

Yet it was a time which needed the close analysis that Hayter gave it in his thoughtful and influential dispatches sent back to the Foreign Office. In the West many assumed that the so-called "collective leadership" after Stalin's one-man dictatorship would make a general agreement easier between East and West. Hayter gave warning that the Soviet Union, under whatever leadership, would hold fast its grip on Eastern Europe and go on accusing the West of plotting aggression against it. Secondly, after some delay, he followed the struggles for personal power that went on behind the "collective leadership" smokescreen. At first he tended, like many Westerners, to back the chances of Malenkov — widely believed to be Stalin's own choice — above those of the rougher and more impulsive Khrushchev. But then Hayter came to appreciate Khrushchev's drive, political skill and imaginative force, despite all his faults.

Hayter gave valuable advice during the several East-West conferences of those years, and it was he who suggested that Eden should invite Khrushchev and Bulganin to Britain in May 1956. He had the especial pleasure of showing them round his own old Oxford college.

His last weeks in Moscow during the autumn of 1956 were unhappy. The Soviet suppression of the Hungarian uprising and the Anglo-French reaction over Suez brought all tentative hopes of better Anglo-Soviet relations to an abrupt stop. Hayter himself was so shocked by the British action against Egypt that he seriously considered resigning his post. But when the Soviet Government sent a blustering note to London, referring threateningly to the use of rockets, Hayter himself sent to London the draft of a firm and dignified reply which the British Government substantially accepted.

He and his wife were outstandingly successful in one important task which fell on the head of the mission in those years: that was, in keeping the large staff of the Embassy happy in the confined and abnormal conditions of residence there. Perhaps the only shadow to have fallen, belatedly, over Hayter's term as Ambassador to Moscow came with the disclosure in 1962 that, during his spell as ambassador, a clerk to the naval attaché at the Embassy, John Vassall, had fallen prey to homosexual blackmail by the Russian Secret Service. However, the Radcliffe tribunal, which investigated the lapse, declared that there had been nothing remiss or careless in Hayter's discharge of his responsibilities. (The tribunal criticised the Admiralty's central communications centre for selecting Vassall for such a senstive post.)

The foundations laid by Hayter's patient, painstaking diplomacy proved of great use when attempts to build up London-Moscow relations could be resumed after the dust of Suez and Hungary had settled.

Hayter returned to the Foreign Office early in 1957 when he took up the appointment of deputy under-secretary. He thus seemed set for the highest posts in the service. Yet the road to immediate promotion was blocked by accidents of seniority; moreover, as he himself admitted, his disapproval of the Suez invasion left him with a legacy of unease and reflected a certain restiveness at the constraints imposed by a civil servant's code.

Thus, when it came about in 1958 that a vacancy occurred in the wardenship of his old Oxford college and he was invited to fill it, he accepted with alacrity. Even so, he said, he would not have left the foreign service for any other post.

In asking Hayter to serve, the governing body of New College was responding to a widely diffused feeling that, after A. H. Smith's uniquely devoted tenure of the wardenship, the time was ripe for a change: that, after his intense absorption in the domestic affairs of the college and the university, there was now a need for a wider outlook and a married Warden in the lodgings.

The qualities which the Hayters had displayed in maintaining morale in the Moscow Embassy were put to comparable service in the college. The lodgings, reconstructed in the interests of elegance, manageability, and comfort, without any loss of their historic character, became again a focus for the social life of the college, senior and junior common rooms alike, under a stream of hospitality which in Iris Hayter's hands flowed ceaselessly, warmly, and, to outward appearance, quite spontaneously.

Hayter himself wrote in his autobiography that 15 years later, he still felt "an amateur in Oxford", as one who had "no share in, and no direct experience of, the two main academic activities, teaching, and research". To the extent that this was true (and he was known to be disappointed that in the university at large his services were not more widely used — he was not, for example, elected to Hebdomadal Council), it was perhaps due, not to any such disqualifications but to the difficulty of converting from the style of diplomacy to that of academe.

Yet inside the college, Hayter's true liberality and principled convictions soon spoke against any such inhibitions. The college's success in escaping all but the slightest infection of the student malaise of the late 1960s owed a great deal to the rapport that the Warden established with junior members, who came to regard him, often with justice as, in a sense, their advocate with the governing body.

In one direction, certainly, Hayter's zeal ran ahead of that of his governing body the admission of women. His advocacy of this cause made New College the first men's college to consider such an innovation, but in 1963 it was not enough to carry the day. In the early 1970s the college changed its statutes to remove the sex barrier, but, much to Hayter's regret, it was not until 1977, after his retirement, that the admission of women as junior members was brought about.

In another cause, Hayter won more response, launching a successful appeal for the development of graduate studies in the college, with the opening of the Sacher Building for graduate accommodation in 1963, and a further appeal, completed after his retirement, for modernisation and restoration of the fabric.

In general, the Hayter years were years of vigorous expansion, the number of fellows increasing by half as much again, and the total of graduates and undergraduates rising to 420 in the 1970s. In this Hayter himself played an active part, becoming tutor for admissions in 1964, an office he retained until his retirement in 1976.

In related fields, Hayter's name was most conspicuously associated with his chairmanship in 1961 of the UGC's Committee on Oriental Slavonic, East European and African Studies, whose recommendations provided a much-needed stimulus to the development of area studies in British universities. From 1958 to 1976, he was a fellow of Winchester, and from 1960 to 1970, a trustee of the British Museum.

Beyond his volume of memoirs, *A Double Life*, he published several wise, economically worded books on Russia and international relations: *The Diplomacy of The Great Powers* (1961), *The Kremlin and the Embassy* (1966), *Russia and The World* (1970); and others on *William of Wykeham Patron of the Arts* (1970) and his delightful work *Spooner* (1977) on the originator of "Spoonerisms".

William Hayter is survived by his wife Iris, née Hoare, whom he married in 1938, and by their daughter.

KEITH SINCLAIR

Keith Sinclair, CMG, OBE, DFC, Editor of *The Age*, Melbourne, 1959-66, died in Melbourne on March 27 aged 80. He was born on November 13, 1914.



IN WHATEVER role he was cast Keith Sinclair demonstrated the charm and patience which was always evident in his personal relations. These qualities were displayed whether on operational service with the RAF and the RAAF, as editor of a great Australian newspaper or sitting on boards as adviser to business or government.

It was after leaving Melbourne High School that Sinclair first joined the editorial staff of *The Age*. He did not, however, stay long. As with the postwar generation of inquisitive and inquiring young Australians, he was determined to spread his wings. He came to London in 1938 as the political temperature in Europe was rising.

On the staff of Australian Associated Press he was a special correspondent in Germany in 1938 during the year of Munich. Back in England, Sinclair enlisted in the RAF. He became group training inspector with No 5 Group. In 1943, with the acting rank of wing commander, he transferred to the Royal Australian Air Force Squadron No 467 (Lancasters), with which he served until 1945.

On demobilisation he joined the London bureau of *The Age*, serving in it until he returned to Australia to assume first the deputy's and then the editor's chair. He was widely respected for the dignity he brought to the position and the impartiality with which he conducted himself in political and commercial circles. On his retirement, his counsel continued to be sought through board appointments, consultancies to the Prime Minister and various other advisory posts.

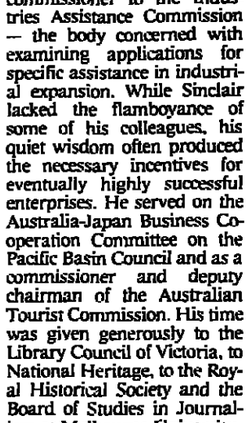
His belief in Australia and respect for its potential was reflected in his acceptance of the appointment as assistant commissioner to the Industries Assistance Commission — the body concerned with examining applications for specific assistance in industrial expansion. While Sinclair lacked the flamboyance of some of his colleagues, his quiet wisdom often produced the necessary incentives for eventually highly successful enterprises. He served on the Australia-Japan Business Co-operation Committee on the Pacific Basin Council and as a commissioner and deputy chairman of the Australian Tourist Commission. His time was given generously to the Library Council of Victoria, to National Heritage, to the Royal Historical Society and the Board of Studies in Journalism at Melbourne University.

Away from his official life, Sinclair remained a gentlemanly and elegant host, a lover of fine wines and at peace with all around him whether in the Melbourne Club, the Press Club in London or at his superb retreat at Flinders Island on the Bass Strait.

He is survived by his wife Jill (née Nelder), who matched her husband's awesome energy in her own support of Australian opera, and by their son Andrew, an assistant producer at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden.

RAYMOND WILSON

Raymond Wilson, Professor of Education at the University of Reading, 1968-89, died on March 21 aged 69. He was born on December 20, 1925.



EXCEPT for a period of four years, Raymond Wilson served as chairman of the School of Education and head of department for the whole of his time at Reading University. His was a cheerful presence around the university and he earned the affection and respect of his colleagues.

His 21 years at Reading followed an interesting early career. He left school at an early age, served in the Royal Navy during the Second World War and completed one of the postwar emergency teacher training schemes. He taught in a number of secondary schools in Northumberland and studied for a part-time honours degree in English at London University. The fact that he obtained a first was, no doubt, one reason why he was offered a post teaching English at Dulwich College, where he subsequently became chief English master.

His university career began in 1965 when he moved to Southampton to a lectureship in education.

Although Wilson was such an excellent administrative leader, his real interests and delights were in other directions. He was a stimulating lecturer on the teaching of English, on the contemporary issues of the day and on the abiding principles established by educational thinkers of the past. He wrote eloquently in learned journals and was in great demand as an external examiner.

But dearest to him of all was his work as a poet and as a compiler of anthologies of poems for schoolchildren. He described himself as an occasional poet, no doubt entirely accurately, but some of his own poems for children are delightful and show Wilson in his true romantic light. In *Time's Delights*, a splendid anthology of poems for all seasons for older children, Wilson boldly includes three of his own pieces which bear comparison with other entries by distinguished poets.

Wilson was well-known throughout the teacher training world and contributed a great deal to the work of the University Council for the Education of Teachers. He served continuously on various sub-committees of that body and on its executive committee for over six years.

Raymond Wilson never lost his love of his native Northumberland and in retirement spent part of his time in the north and part near Reading, where he kept in close contact with a number of university colleagues.

He is survived by his wife Trudy and two sons and one daughter.

THE COUNTESS OF FEVERSHAM



The Countess of Feversham by Raoul Millais

The Countess of Feversham, OBE, voluntary worker and horsewoman, died on March 25 aged 84. She was born on July 31, 1910.

THE Countess of Feversham, widow of the 3rd Earl of Feversham, was a passionate horsewoman and sometime Master of the Sinnington Hunt in North Yorkshire. Instinctively courteous and with a strong sense of duty, she devoted many years to the WRVS both at local and national level, and to numerous charitable causes.

She was born Anne Dorothy Wood, the daughter and eldest child of the 1st Earl of Halifax, Viceroy of India from 1926 to 1931. Her mother was Lady Dorothy Onslow, daughter of the 4th Earl of Onslow. She was educated at Queen's College, Harley Street, and afterwards she joined her parents for three years in India, living in Delhi and Simla. She returned to England and in the early 1930s met the 3rd Earl of Feversham, who had succeeded to the title at the age of ten when his father was killed during the First World War. They were married at York Minster in 1936.

That year Feversham was appointed Parliamentary Under-Secretary to the Ministry of Agriculture. He resigned the post three years later in order to concentrate on his estate and business interests but the war interrupted his plans and, accompanied by his wife, he was posted with his regiment, the Yorkshire Hussars Yeomanry, to Palestine. Lady Feversham, with other wives of officers, was sent back a year later.

On her return she threw herself into work for the Yorkshire branch of the WRVS. As their home on the moors had been turned into a hospital, Lady Feversham took a smaller house locally, while her husband served in the Middle East, and from this she conducted operations.

She found she enjoyed administration and she continued her association with the WRVS on a national level afterwards, later under the chairmanship of Lady Pike. For this, she was appointed MBE in 1950 and advanced to OBE in 1980.

Her main passion, which she was free to pursue after the war with renewed vigour, was fox-hunting. After a slightly nervous start as a girl, she had become a most proficient rider.

She always rode side-saddle and as Master of the Sinnington Hunt — a position she held with her husband — she was painted by Raoul Millais in red coat and top hat in the 1950s. Even in old age, Lady Feversham continued to follow the hunt by car in all weathers until shortly before she died, watching from the vantage points she knew so well.

Inspired by the example of her grandfather who collected a number of tales for his best-selling *Lord Halifax's Ghost Book*, she published an absorbing collection of stories, selected from the many which were sent to her, entitled *Strange Stories of the Chase* (1972). Republished in 1982, this was also translated into French but, despite its success, she resisted suggestions to edit another volume.

Her husband was a progressive farmer and landlord at his estates around Helmsley. Lady Feversham supported him in all his experiments and projects but she was more personally enthusiastic about such hobbies as gardening. She was a knowledgeable plantswoman and she created lovely gardens at both of their homes, Nawton Tower and Pennyholme, despite the not always friendly climate of North Yorkshire. She counted among her friends the Duke and Duchess of Kent and Princess Alexandra.

After her husband died in 1963, she moved to a house on the edge of the moors, living there alone, and as independently as ever, with her terriers.

She is survived by her daughter.

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GRAND NATIONAL THRILLS

REYNOLDSTOWN'S GREAT WIN THE FURLONG FAMILY RECORD

FROM OUR RACING CORRESPONDENT

Major N. Furlong won the Grand National at Aintree yesterday afternoon with his eight-year-old gelding Reynoldstown, trained by himself and ridden by his son Mr. F. Furlong. Reynoldstown finished three lengths in front of Lady Lindsay's Blue Prince, who was another eight lengths in front of Thomond II. Lazy Boots finished fourth. Golden Miller, who started one of the most pronounced favourites in the history of the race, fell at the first fence after Valentine's Brook first time round. Reynoldstown started at 22 to 1 against, Blue Prince at 40 to 1 against, and Thomond II., at 9 to 2 against. Golden Miller started at 2 to 1 against.

The conditions for the race were perfect, for, although when the race was started there was no sun, visibility was very good, and the going, although firm, was not too firm for any sound horse. It was at first surprising that out of a field of 27 in these conditions only six horses completed the course . . .

After a good start the leaders were Thomond II., Castle Irwell, Golden Miller, and Emancipator. There were casualties even at the first fence, and they continued throughout the first round until, when the field came on to the racecourse for the first time, more than half of the starters had vanished from the race. After passing the Canal Bridge, Uncle Bart and Castle Irwell were in front with Thomond II., Royal Ransom, and Emancipator well placed. Golden Miller had already gone. At the Chair Fence Tapinois made a bad mistake; although he did not fall he was winded, and from that moment had no chance. Before Becher's was reached for the second time, the order had changed, for Reynoldstown was now leading from Thomond II., with Blue Prince and Castle Irwell not far behind. Castle Irwell, going very well, vanished from the race at the Canal Turn.

From that point the race was between three horses. Fence after fence Reynoldstown and Thomond II. jumped side by side, with Blue Prince some lengths behind them. When the racecourse was reached for the last time, and that long run-in from the Canal Bridge to the last fence but one was begun, Reynoldstown drew away from Thomond II., while Blue Prince began to close with his two opponents. Before the last fence but one was reached, Blue Prince had passed Thomond II and had reached the quarters of Reynoldstown. It seemed then reasonably certain that Blue Prince would win, but he made a mistake at the fence and his saddle slipped. Before the last fence was reached Thomond II. had come again, and he and Reynoldstown came over the last fence close together. Blue Prince having dropped back. At the beginning of the run-in it seemed for a moment that Thomond II. would win the race for Mr. Whitney, but, as last year, his stamina gave out and Reynoldstown drew away from him. Just when the race seemed to be over, Parvin with his saddle almost gone from under him pushed Blue Prince along as only a great natural horseman can do and threatened danger, but Reynoldstown and his young rider were not beaten and Major Furlong's gallant horse drew away to win by three lengths with the weary Thomond II. eight more lengths away third.

For the first time in the history of the race all three cups for the owner, the trainer, and the rider have been won by one family: Major Furlong owns and trains the winner, who was ridden by his son.

ON THIS DAY

March 30 1935

Reynoldstown's remarkable win in the 1935 Grand National was a triumph for the Furlong family: the following year, after a nail-biting finish, the same horse, ridden this time by Fulke Walwyn, won again.

هكذا من الاصل

THE TIMES TODAY THURSDAY MARCH 30 1995

NEWS

BBC accused over Major interview

■ Labour accused the BBC of giving in to Government intimidation over an interview with John Major to be staged on Panorama on Monday night.

A leaked memo from the programme's deputy editor to other senior BBC executives reveals how they are going to great lengths to defend the BBC against accusations from Opposition leaders of preferential treatment for Mr Major only three days before next week's Scottish elections..... **Page 1**

Aitken campaign to save his career

■ Jonathan Aitken, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, launched a campaign to save his career after claims that he was involved in breaching an arms embargo on Iran. He said he had been unaware that a company of which was once a director allegedly exported naval guns via Singapore..... **Page 1**

Blair's family plea

Tony Blair made another determined bid for the moral high ground as he made clear that a "well-balanced" family with two parents was preferable to one headed by a lone mother. **Page 2**

Council leagues

The best and worst councils are exposed by the Audit Commission in the first set of league tables for local authority performance..... **Pages 2, 32**

Freedom studies

A lorry driver who has spent his time in prison studying the human brain to prove he did not murder a disabled child is expected to be freed by the Court of Appeal..... **Page 3**

British trumpet

Henry Kissinger, John Major and the Prince of Wales joined a galaxy of politicians, diplomats, writers and thinkers in urging Britain to come out of its shell, thrust out its chin and make the most of its assets..... **Pages 1, 12**

Safety first

Teenagers have taken heed of advice about safe sex and have changed their main method of contraception to condoms **Page 8**

Flying risk

A Russian bomber with a crew who could not speak English blundered around the skies off the East Coast, says a Civil Aviation Authority report..... **Page 5**

Just the ticket

Plans to slash the number of railway stations required to sell "through tickets" to any destination on the network have been abandoned..... **Page 6**

Changing family

The traditional British family is in decline. In the decade to 1993, the number of households with a married or co-habiting couple and dependent children fell from 32 to 24 per cent..... **Page 8**

Tax cut campaign

Senior Tory backbenchers are urging Kenneth Clarke to implement a £10 billion package of tax cuts..... **Page 10**

European fraud

The European Union was defrauded of more than £800 million last year by crime syndicates, the European Commission said. Italy topped the league, with £462 million lost..... **Page 13**

Conflict of loyalty

Britain faces a conflict of loyalties at a European Union meeting in Brussels to consider a Spanish demand for trade sanctions against Canada..... **Page 14**

Muslim fears

Indian Muslims were stunned by the latest outpourings of Bombay's new extremist Hindu political leaders, who came to power with a fanatical agenda that includes mass expulsions of illegal settlers..... **Page 15**

East End celebrates Ronnie Kray

■ The East End accorded one of its most infamous sons the equivalent of a state funeral. Crowds big enough to gladden the heart of an emperor turned out to see the last journey of Ronnie Kray and to greet his handcuffed twin brother Reggie as a conquering hero. The merest hint of a wave from Reggie was sufficient to produce squeals of excitement..... **Page 1**

ADRIAN BROOKS



Alison Green, a staff nurse at Harrow, Middlesex, preparing for a demonstration by health workers today rejecting a 1 per cent pay offer

BUSINESS

New neighbours: The conglomerate that owns the *Financial Times* and half of the Lazard Brothers merchant bank is buying the producer behind *Neighbours*. **Page 23**

Executive pay: Directors of Reed Elsevier, the Anglo-Dutch publishing group, were paid a total of £10.5 million during 1994, a rise of 31.4 per cent on the £8 million total pay for 1993..... **Page 23**

Coal: International coal prices have begun to rise strongly for the first time in 15 years as new power stations in South-East Asia come on stream..... **Page 23**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 rose 14 to 3142.3. Sterling's index fell from 85.4 to 85.2 after a rise from $1.6005 to $1.6130 but a fall from DM2.2404 to DM2.2219..... **Page 26**

SPORT

Football: The Republic of Ireland dropped their first point in the European championship when they were held 1-1 by Northern Ireland in Dublin..... **Page 44**

Athletics: Lisa Ondieki, runner-up for the past two years, has withdrawn from the London Marathon because of an injury to her right Achilles tendon..... **Page 42**

Motor racing: Appeals against the disqualification of Michael Schumacher and David Coulthard from the Brazilian Grand Prix last weekend will be heard in Paris on April 13..... **Page 38**

Sports Council: Ian Botham will be a member of the new 15-strong Sports Council for England, which will concentrate on sport from grass roots to the top levels **Page 41**

ARTS

Cinema's centenary: One hundred years ago, British cinema was born when two inventors filmed 40 seconds of the Boat Race. Why aren't we celebrating?..... **Page 34**

Through the hoops: Among the week's new film releases is *Hoop Dreams*, an absorbing documentary about teenagers starting out in professional basketball in America, and *Just Cause*, in which Sean Connery plays a Harvard law professor investigating a murder in Florida..... **Page 33**

Dmitri's lighter side: Opening of a satirical musical by Dmitri Shostakovich, *Cheryomushki*..... **Page 35**

Dutch treat: At the Barbican the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra offered an exemplary display of musical quality..... **Page 36**

FEATURES

Foetal distraction: Ultrasound research suggests that as a foetus grows in the womb it also orchestrates the changes in the mother that allow it do so..... **Page 16**

American hurrah: Raymond Seitz, America's outstanding ambassador to the Court of St James's, is to stay in London..... **Page 17**

Hollywood wives: Julia Roberts and Lyle Lovett barely saw each other during their marriage. The Hollywood stars can console themselves with the publicity their divorce is generating..... **Page 17**

Old Trusties: The National Trust is seeking volunteers over 50 to help with conservation holidays **Page 31**

BOOKS

Queen of sisters: Nigella Lawson applauds Camille Paglia's attack on the pudgy, clumsy, whining feminists..... **Page 36**

Sybaritic writer: Peter Ackroyd rejoices in Clive Fisher's biography of Cyril Connolly, a man of letters who lacked a vision..... **Page 36**

THE PAPERS

The new South Africa must rest on the rule of law and no one can be above it, no matter how great her past suffering — *The New York Times*

President Clinton now makes a timely appeal for a worldwide boycott on Libyan oil. People are not ready to shrug off the Flight 103 murders — *The Washington Post*



TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ LOVE SONGS
Caitlin Moran on Courtney Love — and other women who rewrote rock

■ PLUS ...
The Valerie Grove interview, the Bernard Levin column, David Sinclair on rock

TV LISTINGS

Preview: Jennifer Saunders and Joanna Lumley in a new series of *Absolutely Fabulous* (BBC1, 9.30pm). **Review:** The British may go soppy over their pets but Peter Barnard is not inclined to mock..... **Page 43**

OPINION

Britain's place

The business of projecting Britain's national interests need not and should not be hostage to arguments about the potential value of a common European foreign and security policy..... **Page 19**

Wise council

The publication today of the Audit Commission's local authority performance indicators is another welcome example of commitment to transparency..... **Page 19**

Read the Koran

Mission and Dialogue, a timely book by the Bishop of Rochester, argues that the gulf between the West and the Islamic world need not persist forever..... **Page 19**

COLUMNS

HENRY KISSINGER

A succession of American leaders has for more than a generation considered it natural that on major issues Britain and America would seek to cooperate ... the challenge is whether this can be done in European-American relations and this is where Britain can make a seminal contribution..... **Page 18**

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

Even as a work of art, the Sistine Chapel is by no means easy. The great *Last Judgment* dominates the whole. One does not just drop in on it as one might drop in on a Gainsborough portrait in the National Gallery. To do so would be like taking a paperback of Milton's *Paradise Lost* on a short flight **Page 18**

PETER RIDDELL

Mr Hurd is right that Britain has major assets and strengths which it can use throughout the world. But the European question cannot be avoided for long..... **Page 12**

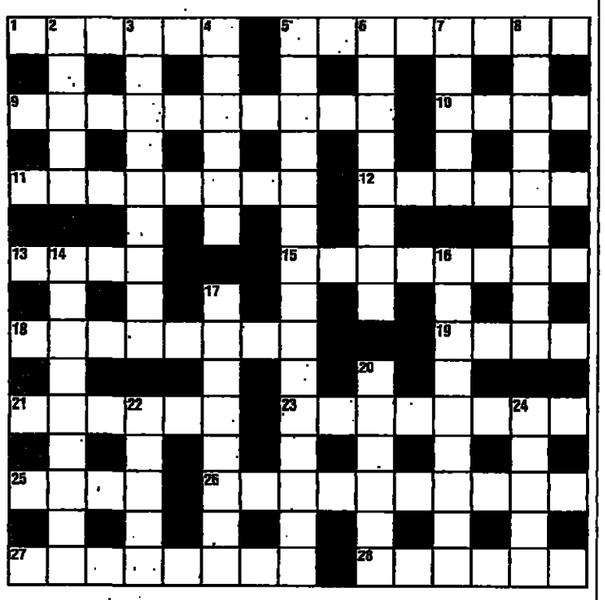
OBITUARIES

Sir William Hayter, former Ambassador to Moscow; **the Countess of Feversham**, voluntary worker; **Keith Sinclair**, Australian newspaper editor; **Professor Raymond Wilson**, educationist..... **Page 21**

LETTERS

The fishing dispute..... **Page 19**

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,816



ACROSS

1 Serene clan leader in highland dress (6)
5 Order given to old soldier (8)
9 Starting off with preparation for display (7,3)
10 Larks in the group — sounds like a drinking spree (4)
11 Fashionable English daughter's hair cut (8)
12 About to go home (6)
13 River erosion (4)
15 Distressed when security is relaxed? (8)
18 He is mainly responsible for the water supply (8)
19 Deposit in the pool may be flushed out (4)
21 Knocked Sunday trade (6)
23 Embellish book collection, with gold title (8)
25 A teacher in retirement? (4)
26 His personnel work may result in capital gains (4-6)
27 Top rated trotting quadruped (8)
28 Constraint required by University when wearing gown (6)

DOWN

2 One effecting blood transfusions for many entering General Hospital (5)
3 Escape Excise and continue with the smuggling (3,3,3)
4 Display a lure to put an end to bold fish (6)
5 Ideal place for gaudy bird in family to start displaying (5-6-4)
6 Mae truly dressed in adult fashion! (8)
7 Take morsel to sustain morning's round (5)
8 Aquatic bird, low down over Thames at first, is going off course (9)
14 Just outcome of appeal held in *1 ac*? (9)
16 Claim one called into question over right of underground worker (9)
17 Firm's dance on the factory floor? (8)
20 Hounds let loose, but nothing's afoot (6)
22 It's subject to ground eruption to some extent (5)
24 Requirements for son succeeding daughter born first (5)

Solution to Puzzle No 19,815

U	P	R	O	S	E		P	A	S	S	O	V	E	R
	I		R		L		U		T		E		E	
O	C	C	I	D	E	N	T		H	A	G	G	I	S
	K		F		G		O		T		E		T	
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	E		C		S		E		O		A		I	
	U		E	M	I	S	S	I	O	N		T		C
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N		P		I	G	N	O	R	A	N	T		E	
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TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code:

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouc,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Hereffds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code:

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Tuesday: Highest day temp: Ross-on-Wye, Hereford and Worcester, 13C (55F); lowest day max: Wick, Highland, 0C (32F); highest rainfall: Falmouth, Cornwall, 0.65in; highest sunshine: Lerwick, Shetland, 8.5hr.

FORECAST

☐ **General:** much of England and Wales will start bright or sunny but cloud will increase, bringing a little rain or drizzle to the north and west. Winds will settle south or southwest and increase slowly, while temperatures should recover to near normal. Scotland and Northern Ireland will be fairly cloudy, with rain or drizzle at times mainly in the west where hill fog will develop. Southwest winds will become quite strong, but it will feel milder with temperatures back to normal.

☐ **London, SE England, E Anglia, Central S England, E Midlands, E England, Channel Isles:** sunny start, then becoming more cloudy. Wind south or southwest fight or moderate. Max 9-11C (48-52F).

☐ **W Midlands, SW England, NW England, Central N:** bright start, some patchy drizzle later. Wind southwest moderate or fresh. Max 11C (52F)

☐ **S Wales, N Wales, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow:** cloudy, mainly coastal rain or drizzle at times. Hill fog later. Wind southwest fresh. Max 11C (52F).

☐ **NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth:** mostly cloudy, some patchy rain at times. Wind southwest fresh or strong. Max 10-12C (50-54F).

☐ **Central Highlands, NE Scotland, Argyll, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland, N Ireland:** rain at times, with hill fog. Wind southwest mainly strong. Max 9-11C (48-52F).

☐ **Outlook:** rain pushing south on Friday and dying out, then bright or sunny but with some showers in the north.

AROUND BRITAIN

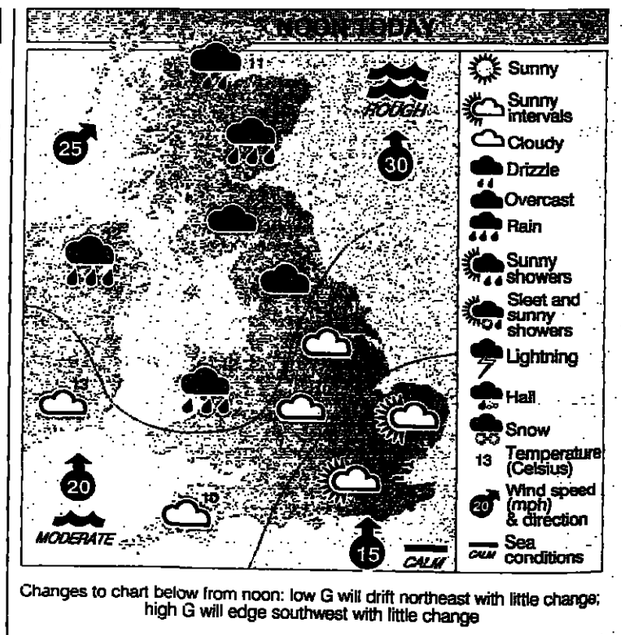
24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	C	F			Sun hrs	Rain in	C	F	
Aberdeen	1.7	0.04	2	36	sn	Littlehmptn	0.6	0.33	11	52	r
Anglesey	X					Liverpool	1.7	0.27	7	45	sn
Aspatria	1.1	0.13	3	37	sn	London	0.2	0.17	11	52	sn
Aviemore	0.3	0.03	1	34	sn	Lowestoft	0.7	0.21	4	39	sn
Belfast	-	0.27	9	48	sl	Manchester	-	0.26	6	43	sn
Birmingham	1.1	0.19	11	52	sn	Margate	-	0.24	7	45	sn
Bognor R	1.4	0.25	10	50	r	Minehead	1.3	0.07	13	55	sn
Bournem'th	1.1	0.13	12	54	r	Morecambe	2.4	0.39	5	41	sn
Bristol	1.0	0.12	11	52	r	Newcastle	-	0.16	3	37	sn
Buxton	0.6	0.72	5	41	sn	Newquay	1.6	0.27	11	52	r
Cardiff	0.3	0.07	10	50	sl	Norwich	0.8	0.19	3	37	sn
Clacton	-	0.32	5	41	r	Nottingham	X				
Cleethorpes	X					Oxford	0.9	0.11	11	52	sn
Colwyn Bay	X					Penzance	1.6	0.62	11	52	r
Cromer	0.4	0.14	2	36	sn	Plymouth	1.1	0.53	11	52	r
Doncaster	X					Poole	1.0	0.13	13	55	r
Dunbar	X					Prestatyn	-	0.27	9	48	r
Eastbourne	1.8	0.45	10	50	r	Ross-o-wye	1.3	0.02	13	55	sl
Edinburgh	X					Ryde	X				
Eskdalemuir	0.4	0.25	1	34	sn	Salcombe	1.6	0.70	12	54	r
Exmouth	2.1	0.17	12	54	r	Sandown	0.9	0.27	11	52	r
Falmouth	X	0.85	11	52	r	Saumin Snd	1.7	0.28	10	50	r
Fishguard	X					Scarboro'	X				
Folkestone	X					Scilly Isles	1.0	0.22	10	50	h
Glasgow	2.8	0.15	6	43	sn	Shanklin	0.7	0.27	11	52	r
Guernsey	-	0.25	11	52	r	Shrewsbury	0.4	0.12	11	52	sn
Hastings	1.4	0.33	9	48	r	Skegness	-	0.31	2	36	sn
Hayling I.	1.4	0.15	11	52	r	Southend	4.5	0.18	10	50	sn
Herne Bay	0.5	0.16	8	48	sn	Southport	1.4	0.39	7	45	sl
Hove	-	0.36	9	48	r	Southsea	1.1	0.17	12	54	r
Hunstanton	-	0.30	2	36	sn	Swanage	1.4	0.11	12	54	sh
Ilfracombe	X					Teignmouth	2.0	0.09	13	55	r
Isle of Man	0.9	0.41	9	48	r	Tenby	1.9	0.57	13	55	c
Jersey	1.8	0.18	10	50	r	Tiree	5.8	0.33	7	45	sl
Kinloss	2.0	0.10	2	36	sh	Torquay	2.2	0.15	13	55	sh
Leeds	X					Ventnor	1.5	0.30	10	50	r
Lerwick	8.5	0.01	1	34	h	Weymouth	1.6	0.05	12	54	r
Leuchars	2.1	-	5	41	sh	These are Tuesday's figures					

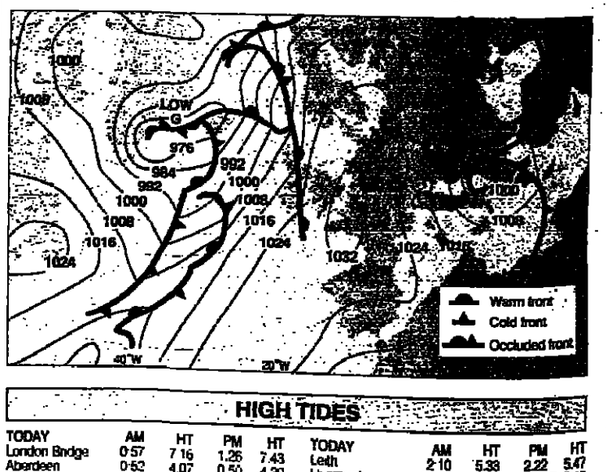
ABROAD

Ajaccio	15	59	f	C'phagn	4	39	s	Madrid	21	70	s
Akrotiri	17	63	f	Corfu	12	54	f	Majorca	20	68	s
Alex'dria	23	73	c	Dublin	6	43	s	Malaga	20	68	s
Algiers	27	81	s	Dubrovnik	8	43	f	Malta	15	59	s
Amst'dm	6	43	f	Faro	27	81	s	Melb'rne	17	63	c
Athens	14	57	s	Florence	6	43	c	Mexico C	24	75	s
Bahrain	22	72	s	Frankfurt	2	36	f	Miami	29	84	f
Bangkok	33	91	f	Funchal	19	66	s	Milan	9	48	f
Barbados	29	84	s	Geneva	5	41	c	Montreal	9	48	s
Barcelona	18	64	s	Gibraltar	17	63	fg	Moscow	2	36	f
Beirut	17	63	s	Helsinki	1	34	s	Munich	0	32	c
Belgrade	8	46	s	Hong K	21	70	f	Nairobi	25	77	f
Berlin	1	34	f	Innsbrck	1	34	sn	Naples	10	50	r
Bermuda	18	64	f	Istanbul	6	43	f	N York	10	50	s
Biarritz	13	55	c	Jeddah	29	84	s	Nice	18	64	s
Borde'x	11	52	c	Jo'burg	19	66	c	Oslo	6	43	s
Brussels	5	41	f	Karachi	34	93	s	Paris	7	45	f
Budapst	4	39	sn	L Palmas	20	68	c	Peking	13	55	s
B Aires	23	73	s	Le Touet	6	43	f	Perth	25	77	f
Cairo	26	79	s	Lisbon	21	70	s	Prague	0	32	sn
Cape Tn	17	63	f	Locarno	9	48	f	Reykjavik	4	39	d
Chicago	6	43	r	L Angels	21	70	s	Rhodes	15	59	f
Ch'church	17	63	-	Luxembg	3	37	f	Rio de J	27	81	f
Cologne	3	37	an	Luxor	29	84	s	Riyadh	34	75	s
Rome	14	57	f
Salzburg	0	32	f
S F'isco	15	59	s
Santiago	23	73	f
S Paulo	28	82	c
Seoul	10	50	f
Sing'por	32	90	f
St'kholm	1	34	c
Strasb'rg	5	41	c
Sydney	21	70	f
Tangier	24	75	s
Tel Aviv	22	72	s
Tenerife	24	75	s
Tokyo	11	52	s
Toronto	8	46	s
Tunis	20	68	s
Vanc'ver	11	52	s
Venice	9	48	c
Vienna	6	43	c
Warsaw	3	37	f
Wash'ton	9	48	c
Wel'ngton	20	68	f
Zurich	3	37	s

TOMORROW



Changes to chart below from noon: low G will drift northeast with little change; high G will edge southwest with little change



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	0:57	7.16	1.26	7.43	Leith	2:10	5.38	2.22	5.47
Aberdeen	0:52	4.07	0.50	4.20	Liverpool	10:44	9.40	11:08	9.13
Avonmouth	6:41	13.30	7:01	13.27	Lowestoft	9:09	2.38	9:08	2.38
Belfast	10:36	3.52	10.59	3.40	Margate	11:52	4.86	--	--
Cardiff	6.28	12.70	6.49	12.56	Milford Haven	5:40	6.99	6:00	6.89
Devonport	5:08	5.41	5.33	5.32	Newquay	4:27	6.87	4:47	6.78
Dover	10:41	5.38	10.49	6.59	Oban	5:13	3.94	5:29	3.75
Dublin	11:13	4:15	11:42	3.96	Penzance	4:06	5.36	4:27	5.28
Falmouth	4:41	5.27	5.03	5.05	Portland	6:11	2.11	6:37	2.04
Glasgow	--	--	0.09	4.80	Portsmouth	10:54	4.62	11:17	4.78
Harwich	11:31	3.93	11:44	3.88	Shoreham	10:58	6:17	11:18	6.03
Holyhead	9:47	5.57	10.14	5.36	Southampton	10:22	4.44	10:41	4.57
Hull	6:54	7.15	5.52	7.43	Swansea	5:54	9.53	6:12	9.42
Ilfracombe	5:29	9.27	5:49	9.18	Tees	3:07	5.15	3.17	5.29
King's Lynn	5:40	6.57	5.55	6.87	W'ton-on-Nze	11:27	4.14	11:37	4.10

Crown copyright reserved All tide times are GMT

HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 6.42 am
Sun sets: 7.30 pm
Moon sets 7.10 pm
Moon rises 6.11 am
New moon tomorrow

London 7.30 pm to 6.40 am
Bristol 7.39 pm to 6.49 am
Edinburgh 7.46 pm to 6.48 am
Manchester 7.40 pm to 6.48 am
Penzance 7.50 pm to 7.02 am

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THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook — THURSDAY MARCH 30 1995

Shell to cut 1,200 jobs in London and The Hague

By Carl Mortished

SHELL, the Anglo-Dutch oil company, announced radical changes in the management of the company yesterday with the loss of 1,200 jobs from Shell's joint head offices in London and The Hague. In a briefing to staff in London yesterday, Cor Herkströter, chairman of Shell's committee of managing directors, said conditions in the oil industry made changes necessary. "We see the business conditions of today, with flat margins and low oil prices, continuing into the future."

Mr Herkströter cautioned staff against complacency after Shell's record 1994 profits of £4 billion. "Our performance is less than satisfactory," he said. "They should remember that we also have an extremely high level of capital employed and that the underlying return on capital is modest."

Shell is scrapping its organisational matrix, a complex system of checks and balances, set up 30 years ago to manage decision-making in a decentralised international company. Instead, five business committees will have shareholder responsibility for running the company, abolishing the old structure which had three lines of command, based on sectors, functions and regions. The new business committees will be based on Shell's five business areas: exploration and production, chemicals, gas and coal and oil products, which comprises refining and marketing.

Shell launched a review of its group structure six months ago with the help of McKinsey, the management consultants. Mr Herkströter described the old system as "designed for a different era, for a different world." Duplication and confusion of roles had built up in the old structure, he explained, and the operating companies found support and guidance from Shell's head office service companies was ineffective or inefficient, and too costly.

About 4,000 work in the service companies, but Mr Herkströter would not say which areas would suffer most, saying that increased efficiency would lead to an overall reduction of about 30 per cent. Analysts described the news as broadly favourable, although some were hoping for more drastic cuts. Shell's head office costs about £625 million a year and some questioned whether a 30 per cent reduction would give Shell much scope for profit improvement.

Pennington, page 25

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FT-SE 100	3142.3	(+14.0)
Yield	4.35%	
FT-SE A All share	1538.43	(+5.43)
Nikkei	16480.73	(-221.00)
New York:		
Dow Jones	4195.04	(+43.23)*
S&P Composite	507.83	(+3.73)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	6¼%*	(6⅛%)
Long Bond	103⅝*	(102¹³⁄₃₂)
Yield	7.36%*	(7.39%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth interbank	6⅝%	(6⅝%)
Life long gilt future (Mar)	102¹⁵⁄₃₂	(102⁹⁄₃₂)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.6085*	(1.6153)
London:		
$	1.6089	(1.6057)
DM	2.2227	(2.2431)
FFr	7.3520	(7.3370)
SFr	1.8324	(1.8522)
Yen	141.97	(143.15)
£ Index	85.2	(85.4)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.3837*	(1.3890)
FFr	4.8765*	(4.8975)
SFr	1.1410*	(1.1462)
Yen	88.28*	(88.88)
$ Index	89.8	(90.6)

Tokyo close Yen 88.90

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Jun) $17.20 ($17.10)

GOLD

London close $383.35 ($382.35)

* denotes midday trading price

Pearson adds Neighbours to TV stable

By Martin Waller, Deputy City Editor

THE conglomerate that owns the *Financial Times* and half of the Lazard Brothers merchant bank is buying the Australian television producer behind *Neighbours*, Australia's longest-running TV series and probably its best-known export.

Pearson, currently building a stable of television interests that includes Thames TV, the former London weekday broadcaster, is paying US$279 million (£175 million) for Grundy Worldwide, which is largely the creation of Reg Grundy, now 71. Grundy's *Neighbours* soap opera launched the singing careers of Kylie Minogue and Jason Donovan.

The deal surprised the stock market because Pearson had released full-year figures on Monday that gave no hint of the purchase. Grundy had planned a New York stock market flotation at about the price being paid and is thought to have been up for sale for some time, with one other British television company believed to have turned it down.

Grundy has a daunting 4,000-plus hours of drama and 1,000 hours of game shows in its vaults and a reputation for cost-effective production of both. Pearson hopes to sell these and further output by the company through the network that the group's television division has been establishing over the past couple of years. These include a global alliance in satellite television put in place with the BBC and TVB, the Hong Kong broadcaster, in which Pearson has a 10 per cent stake.

Grundy's output is well-tailored to cater for emerging television markets in Asia, which are hungry for game show and soap opera formats that can be adapted in accordance with local taste by using local actors or front men. The company's productions on British screens include *How Do They Do That?* and *Celebrity Squares*.

The Grundy deal is the first fruits from the appointment this year of Greg Dyke, who left London Weekend Television after its takeover by Granada last year. Before that, he was credited with rescuing the then-ailing TV-am by the importation of Roland Rat.

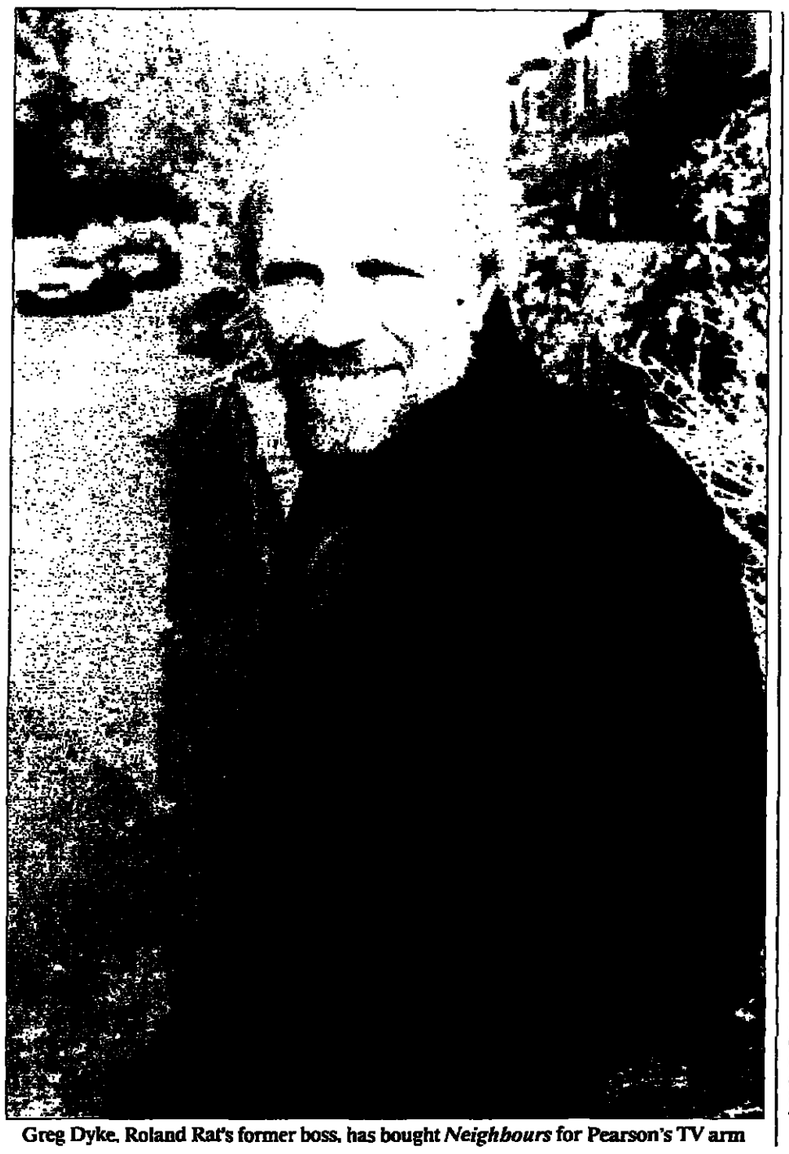
Reg Grundy started his company in 1958 after a career as presenter, and then producer, of a variety of game shows, his first television job being on the Australian version of *Wheel of Fortune*. Mr Grundy will receive almost $240 million under the Pearson deal. He said: "Clearly this has been one of the most important decisions of my life. There are benefits in remaining an independent company, but, in the current fast-changing world of global media, the advantages of teaming up with a company the size and scope of Pearson are self-evident." Mr Grundy is to continue as a consultant.

Mr Dyke said: "[Grundy has] a legendary reputation for efficient financial management of its productions in its different markets, and I see the acquisition as a vital ingredient in our overall strategy."

Pearson shares fell by 10p, to 553p, on the news. The company is paying 17 times historic earnings and expects the purchase to improve earnings per share in 1995.

However, there was some scepticism in the market over Mr Grundy's future role. "The price doesn't look outrageous," one analyst said, "provided they can keep the act going without him."

Tempus, page 26



Greg Dyke, Roland Rat's former boss, has bought *Neighbours* for Pearson's TV arm

Losses at QMH deepen

By Patricia Tehan

LOSSES at Queens Moat Houses, the debt-laden hotels group, which said last week it had finally agreed a £1.3 billion debt restructuring with its 74 banks, increased last year from £46.4 million in 1993 to £95.2 million.

The company's shares, which were suspended at 47½p two years ago, will resume trading in May after an extraordinary meeting of shareholders on April 28, and a request for High Court approval of a scheme of arrangement on May 17.

After a debt-for-equity swap with the company's bankers as part of the restructuring, shareholders will be left with 40 per cent of the total share capital of the group.

Queens Moat will post details of the listing particulars and an offer from its banks to sell their shares for 8.6p each tomorrow. However, when trading resumes, the price is expected to be lower than 8.6p. There will also be a 1-for-10 share reconstruction, with new shares at 86p.

After the debt restructuring, Queens Moat is left with £700 million debts which it must begin servicing in full from January 1997. Most of the debt is fixed-interest debt, with an interest burden of £65 million for Queens Moat.

The losses for the year to January 1 were hit by exceptionals, including £23.4 million from the depreciation of sterling on the translation of foreign currency borrowings.

Pennington, page 25

Pooled resources

Littlewoods, which announced the creation of 2,000 jobs in its retail divisions yesterday, is believed to have held informal talks with Vernons about closer links between their football pools operations. The company faces a steady decline in its market because of competition from the National Lottery. Page 24

Vicious circle

An abrupt downturn in construction orders for the three months to end January has prompted caution over prospects for the second half of 1995 from Blue Circle Industries, Britain's biggest cement producer, in spite of higher 1994 volumes. Page 25

Reed board pays itself £10.5m

By George Sivell

DIRECTORS of Reed Elsevier, the Anglo-Dutch publishing group, were paid a total of £10.5 million during 1994, a rise of 31.4 per cent on the £8 million for 1993.

The rewards were shared by 19 directors, 11 executive and eight non-executive, but were swollen by the £1.25 million paid in compensation to Peter Davis, who resigned as chairman in June.

Mr Davis last week became the new chief executive of the Prudential, Britain's biggest life insurer, which complained to a House of Commons Select Committee this week over the pay package that was awarded to Cedric Brown as the chief executive at British Gas.

The Reed annual report reveals that Mr Davis waived about one-third of his entitlement under his three-year service agreement.

The highest-paid director at Reed Elsevier, was Peter Vinken, the chairman, who joined the £1 million a year club with a rise of 11.1 per cent to £1.037 million during 1994.

Loek van Vollenhoven, deputy chairman, enjoyed a 13 per cent rise to £965,404. Reed also discloses individual fees for non-executive directors. Eight non-executive directors shared fees of £289,000, an average of £36,125. Head and shoulders above the rest was Sir Christopher Lewinton, chairman of the remuneration committee, who drew fees of £76,751 during 1994, a rise on 1993's £73,502.

Reed said Sir Christopher's fees reflected consultancy work on the Reed Elsevier board re-organisation.

Building society sues Fimbra for libel

By Sara McConnell

THE West Bromwich Building Society is suing the Financial Intermediaries, Managers and Brokers Regulatory Association (Fimbra) for libel over allegations made by the regulator in a draft report on the West Bromwich's involvement in sales of home-income plans.

A writ was issued yesterday against Fimbra and Robert Guest, the author of the report. Mr Guest was Fimbra's senior legal officer when the report was drafted in 1994.

The West Bromwich's action comes after distribution of the draft to the media and members of the public by Mike O'Brien, MP for Warwickshire North, when the building society appeared at a hearing of the Treasury Select Committee on Monday.

But the Securities and Investments Board (SIB) is refusing to release a subsequent version of the report, which includes different and additional material.

Andrew Large, SIB chairman, yesterday came under sharp attack from members of the Treasury Select Committee when he told Sir Thomas Arnold, committee chairman, that SIB was never intending to publish a final report on the affair. The draft report, which no one, including the West Bromwich, had been allowed to see until this week, alleges that West Bromwich and Fisher Prew Smith worked closely together to market an "over ambitious" home-income plan called the Rainbow Equity Release Scheme to elderly homeowners.

Under the plan, people mortgaged part of their homes with the West Bromwich then invested the resulting lump sum through Fisher Prew Smith, a Fimbra-registered independent financial adviser. Many similar plans were being sold in the late 1980s.

But falling house prices and stock markets and rising interest rates have since pushed many elderly people into debt. Fimbra's report says that "West Bromwich ought to bear its fair share of the financial responsiblity" for the losses of investors by reducing interest rates on home-income plan mortgages and making a "substantial" payment to the Investors Compensation Scheme. The scheme has already paid out £12 million to Fisher Prew Smith home-income plan victims. John Baker, chairman of the West Bromwich, described the draft report as an ill advised.

RJB set to cash in as coal prices soar



Budge: profits up

By Ross Tieman, Industrial Correspondent

INTERNATIONAL coal prices have begun to rise strongly for the first time in 15 years as new power stations in South-East Asia come on stream, pushing up demand.

The upturn coincided with the sale of Britain's state coal industry to three private sector producers at the end of December. The McCloskey Coal Information Services marker price for spot steam coal has surged 25 per cent, to $43.94, during the past 12 months, and one recent international coking coal deal shows a 12 per cent rise, to $49.30. Gerard McCloskey, head of MCIS, says that there is now a "real danger" that there will be insufficient coal to meet Far East demand.

RJB Mining, which bought British Coal's English deep mines and opencast sites, may now find it easier to displace imports, which last year accounted for 15.8 million tonnes of UK consumption, roughly a quarter of the total.

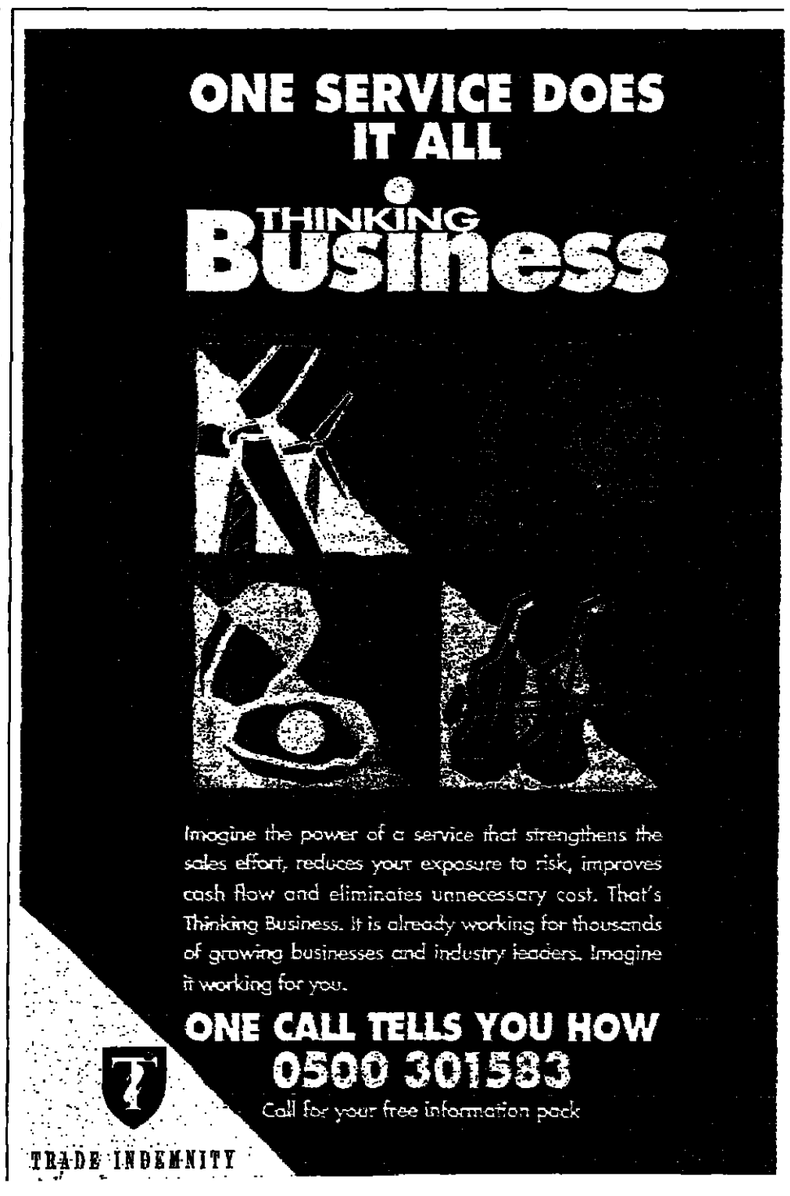
If RJB can achieve its goal of substituting seven million tonnes of English production for imported fuel, it will lift sales by about £250 million a year.

Richard Budge, chief executive of RJB, said that the upturn in prices brings the cost of coal delivered to UK ports to £1.25 per gigajoule, in line with forecasts for the market after 1998 that accompanied RJB's £400 million rights issue to finance the British Coal deal. Critics claimed the forecasts were over-optimistic.

In figures for the year to December 31, issued yesterday, RJB lifted pre-tax profits by 32 per cent, to £16.1 million, beating its forecast. A second interim dividend of 7.3p makes a 12.5p total payout, up 0.5p.

Mr Budge reported good progress in integrating the British Coal mines, which cost £815 million and came with contracts to supply 30 million tonnes of coal a year to National Power and PowerGen.

RJB now employs 9,165, including 7,300 miners, in its 22 deep mines and 18 opencast pits. Output is running at 36 million tonnes a year, and is rising as productivity improves. Ellington mine, in Northumberland, has been re-opened, and coaling began last week at the new £460 million Asfordby pit.



Employees 'are mis-sold free-standing AVCs'

BY SARA MCCONNELL

MEMBERS of occupational pension schemes who want to top up their contributions are being wrongly sold expensive free-standing plans although their companies are offering similar top-up facilities more cheaply, a leading firm of actuaries said yesterday.

An estimated million people make additional voluntary contributions (AVCs) on top of their contribution to an occupational pension scheme, particularly as they near retirement. Employers have to offer their employees an AVC scheme. Alternatively, employers are free to make their own arrangements through a free-standing AVC (FSAVC) if they prefer. However, employees topping up with an FSAVC will pay the equivalent of one year's contributions in charges over 10 years, while those using their employer's scheme will have most of the costs paid for them by the employer.

Regulators are already investigating widespread mis-selling of personal pensions to members of occupational pension schemes. Evidence of further mis-selling of free-standing AVCs, which are similar in structure to personal pensions and sold by the same people, would further dent public confidence in pensions.

Steve Mingle, specialist in AVC arrangements at Bacon & Woodrow, said: "There is no doubt that some free-standing AVCs are being mis-sold."

Several insurers that operate additional voluntary contribution schemes for companies have noticed large numbers of sales of free-standing AVCs to employees of the same companies, Mr Mingle added. The only difference between the schemes is that the employees are paying high charges, including commissions, for the free-standing AVCs.

Mr Mingle also said that trustees have a duty to review the performance of the provider of their in-house AVC. Employees can lose thousands of pounds in benefits if trustees of their scheme choose a poor provider. Bacon & Woodrow's annual survey of group AVC schemes, published yesterday, shows that, over 10 years, an employee making AVCs to the Co-operative Insurance Society (CIS), the best performer would have got a return of 17 per cent a year, whereas London Life, the worst, returned just 11.1 per cent a year. However, the CIS contract is only for employees of the Co-operative movement.

The best-performing managed fund contract, from Fidelity, returned an average 13.5 per cent a year over the last five years, three times the return of Guardian, the worst performer, at 4.4 per cent a year.

MTM in chemical takeover

MTM, the chemicals company, is acquiring Solvitol, a maker of chemical industrial products, for a maximum £9.15 million. Solvitol made £977,000 profits before tax last year (£702,000), on turnover of £6.4 million. The acquisition continues MTM's reconstruction after it sold most of its businesses in June 1993.

Halfway rise for Adwest

Adwest Group, the industrial holding company with interests in automotive components and power systems, said the outlook continued to be encouraging, with good demand. In the half-year to the end of December Adwest increased taxable profits to £6.2 million (£3.93 million) from a £90 million turnover (£63 million), including a maiden contribution from acquisitions. The interim is lifted to 2.3p (2.1p), payable May 26. Since the end of the half-year Adwest has acquired Triple A Tube for $12.6 million, its first US automotive purchase.

Speedy Frost

Frost Group, the SAVE petrol retailer, has reached its 250-sites target nationwide two years early. It is also planning to enter the dealer wholesaling market. Pre-tax profits for 1994 rose to £10.86 million (£7.65 million). A final of 3.2p makes 5.9p (4.9p).



David Jones, the chief executive of Next, where full year, pre-tax profits increased by 46 per cent to £107 million

Next rules out special dividend payments

BY SUSAN GILCHRIST

NEXT, the high street fashion retailer, yesterday ruled out the possibility of returning its growing cash pile to shareholders through either share buy-backs or special dividend payments.

Lord Wolfson of Sunningdale, Next's chairman, dismissed City speculation on the matter as extraordinary. He said the group was comfortable with its cash position. "I don't think we have a dramatic surplus. I think we have got the balance about right."

The group boosted its cash balances by £32 million to £119 million last year. Lord Wolfson said that the money would be spent on expanding the store base and possibly making acquisitions.

Next, of which David Jones is chief executive, plans to open its first trial store in France, at Créteil, on the outskirts of Paris, in June. A further outlet is planned for the autumn. Lord Wolfson said that the format would be extensively tested before any further expansion. The group will decide whether to roll out its four trial stores in America later this year.

The group unveiled a 46 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £107.4 million, from £73.5 million, in the year to January 28. Like-for-like sales in the stores rose by 16 per cent, with sales from Next Directory increasing by 27 per cent.

A final dividend of 6.25p (4p) brings the total payout to 9p (5.5p), a rise of 64 per cent. Shareholders will be paid on July 3.

Littlewoods in alliance talks with Vernons

BY MARTIN BARROW

LITTLEWOODS, which announced the creation of 2,000 jobs in its retail divisions yesterday, is believed to have held informal talks with Vernons about closer links between their football pools operations.

The company, confronted with a steady decline in its market because of competition from the National Lottery, hopes that a television advertising campaign beginning next month — the first of its kind — will redress the balance. However, other options are being considered, including an alliance with Vernons, which is owned by Ladbroke Group.

Littlewoods and Vernons vie for the same market in football pools, with Littlewoods claiming a 75 per cent share and Vernons about 20 per cent. Both companies are based in Liverpool and adopted new marketing strategies to counter the threat from the lottery.

Bill Huntley, managing director of Littlewoods, said: "We are always talking to Vernons. We are in the same town." However, when pressed on the prospect of concrete discussions with Vernons about a merger, Mr Huntley said: "There have been no formal discussions." Turnover at Littlewoods was currently about 10 per cent lower than before the lottery launch, he said.

Littlewoods expects to recruit up to 2,000 people, including 500 in its Merseyside heartland, as it expands its Index catalogue shopping chain and the Littlewoods department stores, opening new branches principally in the North West, Wales and Northern Ireland. However, the company continues to show a reluctance to expand in the South and South East, where it maintains a low profile, blaming continuing high rents and property costs.

The company, which last week parted company with chief executive Barry Dale, reported 1994 profits of £116 million before tax, compared with £117.2 million. Operating profits were reduced to £104.4 million from £118.2 million but there was an exceptional credit of £5.1 million (£3.4 million charge last time) and a rise in investment income to £6.5 million from £2.4 million.

Retailing profits fell to £92.1 million from £99.5 million, although losses at Index, which competes head-on with the successful Argos chain, were cut to £5.8 million from £7.5 million. Pools and associated businesses rose to £27.6 million from £25 million, with the National Lottery denting fortunes in the final weeks of the year.

Despite the expansion of the company's other retailing interests, including the new warehouse clubs, home shopping continues to underpin its fortunes, lifting profits to £73.4 million last year from £69.2 million. Home shopping sales advanced to £1.08 billion from £1.04 billion previously.

'Game of chance' for names

LLOYD'S names are involved in a game of chance in which they can suffer huge losses almost by random, according to a review by James Smart, an accountant at Binder Hamlyn, into the £56 million of losses suffered by names on syndicate 604 (Sarah Bagnall writes).

Syndicate 604 suffered badly from asbestosis and other latent liability claims emanating from America. In syndicate 604's case, the loss burden fell on the group of names who were underwriting on the syndicate in 1984 because exposure was not passed on to a new group through reinsurance. However, the losses relate to policies written in the 1940s, and placing the entire loss on a single group of names is not equitable, says Mr Smart.

Pennington, page 25

Airlines face fundraising difficulties

AIRLINES face growing difficulty in raising funds to acquire the $30 billion of new aircraft they have on order each year, a leading banker warned (Ross Tieman writes).

Western banks, their balance sheets constrained by the need to retain £1 of assets for every £10 loaned, will concentrate lending on quality borrowers, Peter Ibbetson, head of aerospace at NatWest Markets, told a Brussels conference. Only Japanese banks, awash with funds and anxious to develop new markets, will initially prove enthusiastic lenders.

Banks are also concerned about the impact of state aid on airline profitability, Mr Ibbetson said. Appealing to Neil Kinnock, the European Union Transport Commissioner, to take a tough stance against aid, he said bankers needed a predictable political regime.

Bank takes liberal line on planned gilts repo market

BY JANET BUSH
ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE Bank of England yesterday confirmed that a new, open market in gilt-edged repos will start at the beginning of of next year, in line with the timetable envisaged by the Chancellor.

The Bank yesterday produced a paper giving technical plans for the new market. The paper will form the basis for further consultation and work on items such as settlement procedure and monitoring of the market as it grows.

The Bank, of which Eddie George is Governor, has opted for as liberal and inclusive an approach as possible, leaving to participants much of the detail of how the market will develop. The framework envisages a repo market similar in practice and structure to markets already operating, notably the huge US Treasury bond market. The idea is that Britain's market will thus be familiar to overseas investors, who, it is hoped, will become even more enthusiastic participants in the gilt market. They already hold nearly 20 per cent of gilts.



George: seeking views

A repo is a transaction in which one market participant can lend gilts in return for cash, or vice versa. It is similar to the system of stock borrowing in which similar deals are negotiated bilaterally, but gilts are lent in exchange for other securities, such as certificates of deposit.

The rationale behind a repo system is that the market as a whole gains flexibility and liquidity and the Government's borrowing costs are duly cut. The Treasury has estimated that every one basis point off yields cuts the cost of borrowing to the Government by £25 million annually.

The Bank has thrown the new market open to all participants, but has no immediate plans to enter into gilt repos or stock-lending itself. The two major advances in yesterday's paper are the agreement of a watertight legal framework for deals and a code of conduct. This leaves mostly technical work to be done before the starting date of January 2, 1996, which now looks realistic.

UK water firms dragged into Australian dispute

BY RACHEL BRIDGE IN SYDNEY

THAMES WATER and North West Water have become entangled in a dispute over foreign company involvement in the A$1.5 billion (£680 million) privatisation of South Australia's water operations.

The two have been shortlisted along with Générale des Eaux and Lyonnaise des Eaux of France to run the water and waste water system in Adelaide.

But Senator Peter Cook, the Industry, Science and Technology Minister in the Australian federal Government, has criticised the Australian Government for failing to include an Australian company in the tender process. "It is critical that for something as strategic as water and sewerage management the ownership is Australian," he said.

He also called for a delay in the awarding of the contract to allow time for an Australian-controlled consortium to be put together.

However, the South Australian Government defended its actions yesterday, saying that no Australian company had the technology to undertake

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Three in line to buy NatWest custody unit

NATIONAL Westminster Bank has a shortlist of three parties interested in buying its £57 billion domestic and global custody business. The bank put the business up for sale several weeks ago, after deciding it was non-core. NatWest declined to comment on its plans yesterday.

NatWest Investment Services, the custody business, employs 240 people. Its biggest clients are the NatWest asset management business, which is run by NatWest Markets, and its pension fund. Other banks see their custody operations — the safekeeping of securities for clients — as key to selling other services. But the custody services market has become increasingly competitive and NatWest decided the returns from it were insufficient.

☐ NatWest said it will make a £5 million profit on the sale of its 19.21 per cent holding in Creditwest, the Italian bank. It has agreed in principle to sell the stake to Credito Emiliano for £12.9 million.

Ratner rebels succeed

REBEL preference shareholders of Signet, formerly Ratners, have succeeded in forcing an extraordinary meeting to consider the break-up of the debt-laden jewellery group. The rebels, who are owed £100 million in dividend arrears, have become alarmed at the slide in the group's share price and are pressing for radical action. They believe some form of break-up is the only way the group can only repay its £360 million of debt. Goldsmiths, the rival jewellery chain, and Argos have been cited as potential buyers of H Samuel and Ernest Jones, Signet's UK businesses. Signet is advising shareholders to take no action until a meeting is held.

Revamp at Meggitt

MEGGITT, the troubled engineering company where the acquisitive TT Group has taken a 4 per cent shareholding, is to begin a widespread restructuring. The company is to withdraw from its contracting activities, which last year had sales of £73 million while other businesses, with sales of £43 million, have been identified for disposal. The company yesterday disclosed a decline in pre-tax profits to £14.8 million in 1994 from £23.3 million in the previous year, with earnings falling to 4.3p a share from 7.1p. The total dividend is being maintained at 3.93p, with a 2.63p final, due to be paid on July 7.

Tempus, page 26

Croda disappoints

SHARES in Croda International fell 26p to 335p after the chemicals company's 1994 financial results disappointed the City. Profits fell to £42.8 million before tax from £48.9 million in spite of a £3 million exceptional income from an insurance claim and a £1.8 million pension credit. At the operating level profits were £43 million (£43.2 million), on higher turnover of £423 million (£415.1 million). The company is negotiating the sale of its cosmetics and toiletries business, which incurred losses of £700,000 against profits of £1.7 million last time. Earnings were 22.9p a share (27.6p). A final dividend of 5.8p a share, due July 3, makes a total of 8.9p (8.4p).

Grampian lifts payout

GRAMPIAN HOLDINGS, the Scottish mini-conglomerate, said yesterday that the long-awaited benefits of its extensive restructuring were finally beginning to show through. Bill Hughes, chairman and chief executive, announced a lower than expected increase in profits before tax and exceptionals from £5.6 million to £8.5 million in the year to December 31. Stripping out the £3 million net exceptional cost of the restructuring in 1993, profits slipped from £8.6 million. The final dividend, due May 30, was lifted to 4.05p, making a total for the year of 5.75p, up from 5.5p last time. Earnings per share rose from a post-exceptional 7.35p to 8.73p.

More power bills cut

TWO more regional electricity companies in England and Wales have announced cuts in the bills their customers will have to pay from next month. Eastern Group, the largest of the 12 companies, and Midlands Electricity, follow Southern Electric and London Electricity which announced price cuts on Tuesday. Eastern is offering its customers an average saving of about 3 per cent, which will rise to 4 per cent for consumers with lower than average bills. The savings stem from the recent decision to cut standing charges and freeze prices. Midlands is also freezing tariffs, claiming this equates to a cut of between 3 and 4 per cent in real terms.

Downturn at Senior

SENIOR ENGINEERING is holding its final dividend after a decline in taxable profits to £18.1 million in 1994, from £24.2 million in the previous 12 months. The downturn was partly caused by losses of £4.2 million on discontinued business, compounded by a sharp decline in profits in the thermal engineering division. A final dividend of 2.1p a share, due June 5, makes a total of 3.4p, compared with an adjusted 3.27p previously. Earnings were 4.38p a share (6.95p). The company said that the problems of the thermal engineering division had now been fully addressed.

Losses hold back Chime

ONE-OFF disposal losses held back profits growth at Chime Communications, Sir Tim Bell's public relations group that gained a listing last June after a reverse takeover of Chartwell. Chime, which has since divested of the Chartwell businesses, made a pre-tax profit of £128,000 in the nine months to December 31, compared to a loss of £1.2 million last time. Chime made an operating profit of £1.5 million — excluding exceptional losses of £1.3 million on the sale of a property and Chartwell — compared with a loss of £1.1 million. There is a final dividend of 0.8p.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.31	2.14
Austria Sch	16.73	15.23
Belgium Fr	49.06	44.76
Canada $	2.370	2.21
Cyprus Cyp£	0.756	0.701
Denmark Kr	9.52	8.72
Finland Mrk	7.62	6.97
France Fr	8.34	7.69
Germany Dm	2.36	2.17
Greece Dr	381.00	356.00
Hong Kong $	13.09	12.09
Ireland Pt	1.04	0.96
Israel	5.2819	4.5319
Italy Lira	2845.00	2690.00
Japan Yen	157.00	141.00
Malta	0.603	0.548
Netherlds Gld	2.657	2.427
Norway Kr	10.57	9.77
Portugal Esc	246.50	228.00
S Africa Rd	rel.	5.36
Spain Pta	213.00	200.00
Sweden Kr	12.44	11.64
Switzerland Fr	1.87	1.79
Turkey Lira	64743	65294
USA $	1.7080	1.5780

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

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AUSTRALIA	20/28	52
NEW ZEALAND	40	52
INDIA	68	102
SINGAPORE	40	70
SOUTH AFRICA	44/60	77
HONG KONG	40	70
TAIWAN	40	104
BRAZIL	68	100
COLOMBIA	68	104
ISRAEL	64	87
MALAYSIA	76	104

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The Annual General Meeting of Bayer Aktiengesellschaft will be held on 26th April, 1995 in Cologne. Payment of a Dividend of 28% for the year 1994 will be proposed.
Copies of the Company's Annual Report for 1994 in English will be available from S.G.Warburg & Co. Ltd.
United Kingdom Shareholders who wish to attend and vote at the Annual General Meeting should by 18th April,1995, inform S.G.Warburg & Co. Ltd., Paying Agency, 2 Finsbury Avenue, London EC2M 2PA who will make the necessary arrangements on their behalf.
Under Section 125 of the German Companies Act, the Board of Management is only obliged to provide information on proposals and nominations that may be made by shareholders if the parties concerned prove their standing as shareholders in good time.
BAYER ATKIENGESELLCHAFT

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☐ Changing economics of the pits ☐ Shell's gloomy realism ☐ Repos are good for London

Coal gathers steam

☐ ONLY four months ago, Richard Budge, Britain's new King Coal, was mocked as an unrealistic optimist. His drive to raise £815 million with which to buy the English mining assets of British Coal became a trial of will. The main reason: suggestions that he had hopelessly overestimated the price that British-mined coal was likely to fetch when the current supply contracts end in 1998.

Yesterday, Mr Budge was in buoyant mood, and with good reason. The cost of coal brought from the Gulf of Mexico to Britain has reached £1.26 a gigajoule, or some $50 dollars a tonne. That is one cent a gigajoule more than Mr Budge predicted his output would fetch three years hence. For shareholders in RJB Mining, and for Britain's 12,000 remaining mineworkers, this is good news. British mined coal now looks increasingly able to compete with supplies from overseas, at least in the United Kingdom.

Gerard McCloskey, a leading independent analyst, points to a surge in coal demand resulting from the completion of new coal-fired electricity generating plants in Japan, Taiwan and South Korea. This new demand was predictable. But producers, particularly in Australia and Columbia, have failed to expand output, and will be unable to do so for some years. According to Mr McCloskey, "there is a real risk of a physical shortfall in supply".

Spot prices for coal have risen in each of the past 14 months. They are now 25 per cent higher than a year ago. A similar pattern can be seen in coking coal contracts. The latest deal between Hanson's Peabody in America and a Japanese steel producer shows a rise of 12 per cent. With supply constrained and demand still growing, these prices could climb further.

Coal-consuming industries, such as steel, cement and paper, will find higher energy costs adding to the cost inflation they are experiencing elsewhere. Britain's power generators, who have spent some £300 million on coal import facilities, will now find it less easy to get cheaper supplies overseas. Their hopes of forcing Mr Budge into big price cuts from 1998 onwards must be fading. Ironically, higher coal prices are not necessarily in the best interest of the coal industry. With rising output from nuclear power stations, and more and more gas-burning plants coming on stream, coal's share of the electricity market in the United Kingdom is shrinking fast. Given Britain's free market energy policy, the biggest competition for British coal comes not from imported supplies, but from other fuels.

To arrest and reverse the decline in coal's UK market, Mr Budge and his smaller rivals, including Celtic Energy, Coal Investments and Mining Scotland, must drive down costs to the point where coal-derived energy can start to drive out alternative fuels. Higher prices may provide comfort. They are not the long-term answer.

Glasnost on the South bank

☐ SHELL has thrown open its cupboards. It found few skeletons but a thick layer of dust covering everything. The Anglo-Dutch oil company rarely goes public on financial matters, regarding communication with the outside world as a necessary evil. Its oratory is normally limited to periodic bland



announcements concerning the never-ending rise in profits and dividends. But for a company that reported £4 billion profits last year, it did a remarkable job of beating its breast in public yesterday.

Suddenly the world is a dark and dangerous place with never-ending low oil prices and margins. For the Shell executive, who as a green 1960s graduate walked into the monolithic grey buildings on London's South bank expecting a career that would progress from one lucrative foreign posting to another, the prospects of a gentle slide into retirement in Guildford look less certain.

The implied change of culture is, however, ultimately more significant than the loss of comfortable jobs. Shell has been shedding jobs for some time and following the fashion to return to core businesses — a little later than others perhaps, but this group was never known for hurried decisions.

At the core of yesterday's announcement and the decision to bring in gurus from McKinsey was a deep anxiety that the Royal Dutch/Shell group's jungle of committees and reporting hierarchies is not delivering the decisions needed to keep oil and profits flowing at the required rate. Shell has recently suffered shocks from controls breaking down, notably in the currency losses at its Japanese subsidiary, Showa Shell, and a perception in the market that Shell has been too slow to sell its loss-making metals businesses.

The answer, proposed yesterday, is to scrap some committees and create new ones, streamlining the bureaucracy rather than collapsing it entirely. Shell is probably too complex to be run by a Hanson-style shallow pyramid. But having opened the door to more centralisation, Shell executives can expect the chill wind of individual responsibility to ruffle their feathers even more.

Another blow for the clubmen

☐ THE Bank of England has opted for an evolutionary approach to its new repo market for gilt-edged, leaving it to market forces to determine many details. So this element in the latest wave of change follows City tradition.

Big Bang was the exception rather than the rule. The sweeping deregulation and switch to electronic quotation, all on a single day in 1986, was partly due to the competition-based ideology of the time, which led to the Stock Exchange's club rules being challenged.

The plan unveiled yesterday is more a case of catching up. There is already a well developed repo market in the US Treasury bond market and a functional one in France. Germany has an embryonic market but most of its business is done in London to avoid labyrinthine tax rules.

The decision to create a market here reflects demands from international traders and investors, who do not see why they should trade UK bonds in a special way. They will determine its exact working and scale. Only if trade multiplies will the Treasury actually save real money on borrowing costs, the formal rationale for the change.

What this latest innovation shares with Big Bang is that the doors of the cosy gentleman's club of City insiders have been flung wide open. In 1986, the distinction between brokers and jobbers went. This time, it seems likely that another layer of specialised middle men, such as Stock Exchange money brokers, may have to merge with larger institutions as their role is usurped by seamless electronic trading.

Second helping

☐ THE prospect of Queens Moat shares resuming dealings in May should not bring euphoria. As the unhappy 1994 results show, the dead hand of banks still weighs heavy. Shareholders should be wary when they receive notice of a seemingly cheap offer from banks to sell back the bulk of the much-diluted equity. Those stuffed with stock for so long may feel they want no second helpings.

Blue Circle cautious after orders downturn

By Martin Waller

AN ABRUPT downturn in construction orders in the three months to the end of January has prompted caution over prospects for the second half of 1995 from Blue Circle Industries, Britain's biggest cement producer, in spite of sharply higher volumes in 1994.

Keith Orrell-Jones, the chief executive, said orders had fallen by 25 per cent against their levels a year previously. As a consequence, while Blue Circle was forecasting a 3 per cent rise in volumes in the US, a market that was still recovering from recession, the closest "guesstimate" the company could reach for the UK was of a 2 per cent gain, most of this in the first half.

The group was reporting pre-tax profits for 1994 of £243.8 million before £59.4 million of one-off costs from a disposal and the fine imposed on the industry for anti-competitive practices. This compared with a figure of £165.6 million for 1993.

Earnings per share before exceptionals rose from 14.5p to 21.1p, and the group is paying a final dividend of 8p, raising the total by 0.5p to 11.75p.

The heavy building materials side, encouraged by recovering markets in most of the areas in which the group operates, managed a 43 per cent rise in operating profits to £196.8 million, but home products, which includes bathroom and central heating components, was little changed at £67.1 million against £64.4 million.

Mr Orrell-Jones said the heating side had been hit by price competition both in the UK and Germany, and immediate prospects for demand this year were uncertain. Blue Circle has announced a price increase of 4 per cent for cement in the UK, and the signs are that this will stick. Last year, a similar price rise, the first for some years in the cement industry, resulted in an actual increase of about half a per cent on cement volumes that were 15 per cent higher, coinciding with a change in the mix of sales from bagged cement towards less expensive bulk purchases.

Mr Orrell-Jones said the group would review growth opportunities in the core business. "We're in a position where we could now handle add-on acquisitions, but we will not be going out and using the strength of the balance sheet in a cavalier manner."

The company, like the other companies fined by the European Commission is appealing. Blue Circle's provision to cover the cost pending the appeal totalled £16.2 million.

Blue Circle shares added 10p to 294p.

Tempus, page 26

Harrisons can make £300m bid

By Eric Reguly

HARRISONS & Crosfield said it is in a position to make a large acquisition in either the building supplies or chemicals businesses, now that it has completed the sale of its Indonesian plantations.

The plantation sale, together with the disposal of its consumer food activities, Selford Foods and H&C Cereals, left the company with profits of £138 million and gearing of 2 per cent at the end of 1994, compared with 55 per cent the previous year. Bill Turcan, chief executive, said the largely debt-free balance sheet will allow it to take on an acquisition of about £300 million. Although nothing is imminent. He said: "We are looking at a number of opportunities."

He said a purchase in the building supply business would make sense because the market is highly fragmented. H&C would like to boost the market share of its wholesale depots, which accounts for only 7 per cent of that market.

H&C reported pre-tax earnings, including profits from disposals, of £236.7 million in 1994 (£98 million). Operating profits, before the exceptional items, rose 12 per cent to £108 million on turnover of £2 billion. A 5.4p final leaves the total unchanged at 9p.

Coats gives boost to textile sector

By Susan Gilchrist

COATS VIYELLA gave the depressed textile sector a much needed boost yesterday as it reported profits in line with City expectations and predicted a year of strong growth.

Sentiment has turned against the sector recently because of fears that rising raw material prices and a weak dollar would hit textile companies' profits. However, Neville Bain, chief executive, said Coats had absorbed much of the cost pressure and would continue to do so.

Coats reported an 18 per cent increase in underlying pre-tax profits before exceptional items to £152.4 million, from £129.1 million. However, the bottom line was depressed by a £51 million exceptional charge relating to the disposal of the carpets and yarns and fabrics businesses.

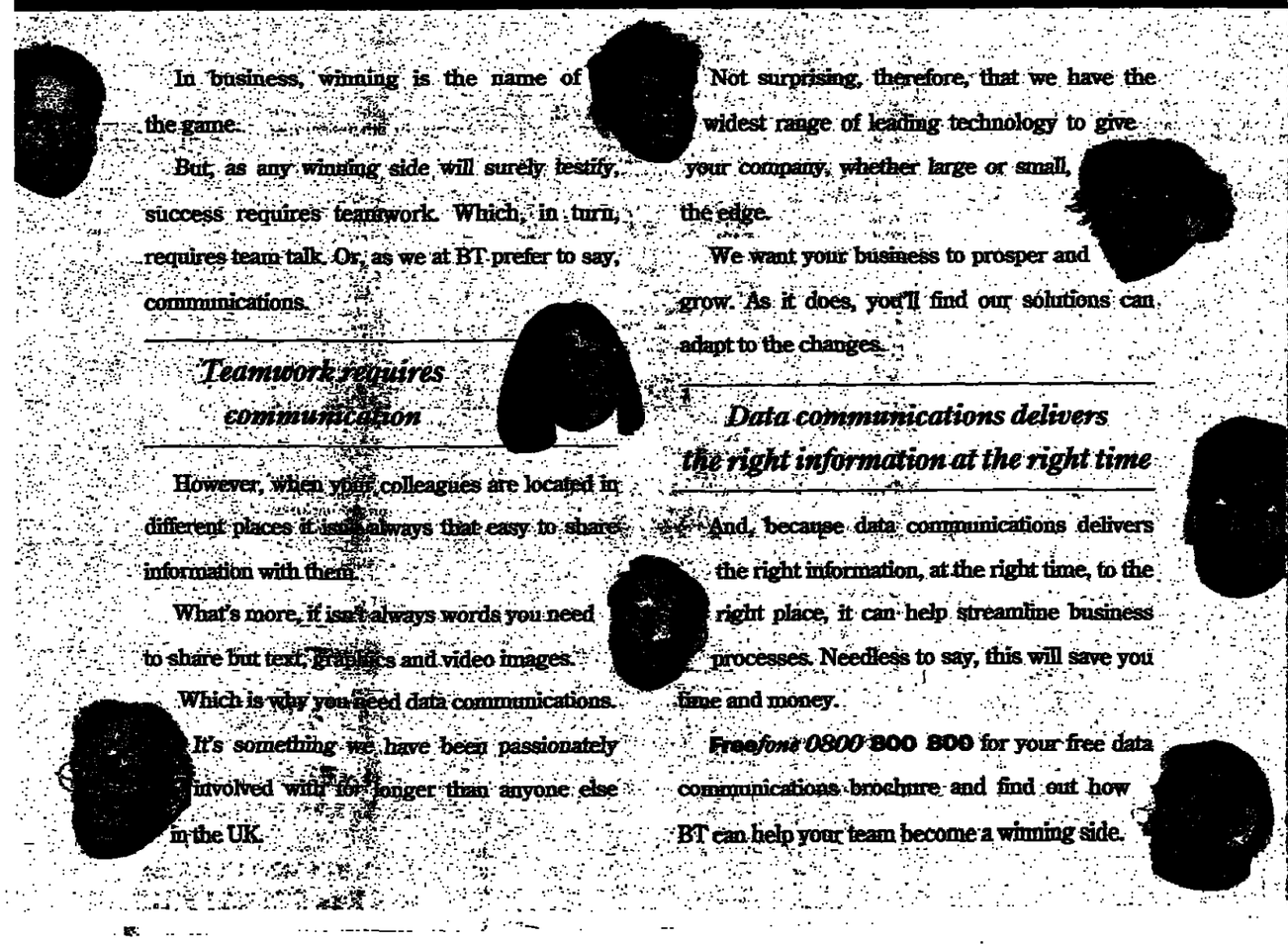
The precision engineering and fashion retail operations reported profit increases of 16 and 19 per cent respectively. Mr Bain said that Coats was on the lookout for acquisitions and would be prepared to pay £200 million to £300 million if the right opportunity came along.

A final dividend of 5.0p (4.75p) brings the total payout to 8.5p (8.0p).

Tempus, page 26

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STOCK MARKET  PHILIP PANGALOS

Berkeley set to improve Southern Business offer

THE battle for control of **Southern Business Group** is set to intensify next week, with **Berkeley Business Group** expected to improve its offer for the office equipment and photocopier distributor.

Berkeley, previously known as Business Technology Group, is run by a former Securiguard team led by Alan Baldwin, chairman and chief executive. It initially offered £72.2 million in a cash and shares deal. The offer, made in February, was based on 104p of cash and seven new Berkeley shares for every two Southern Business Group shares. Berkeley's offer now values Southern at 73p a share.

But Danka Business Systems, the US controlled office equipment group, made a counter-bid last Friday worth 70p in cash, valuing Southern at £67.6 million.

Berkeley's offer had received 22.7 per cent acceptances by Monday's first closing date after originally being accepted by 23.8 per cent of shareholders. However, last week, Southern's management, which has an 8.2 per cent stake, withdrew its acceptance and moved in favour of Danka, arguing that its cash bid was an improved offer.

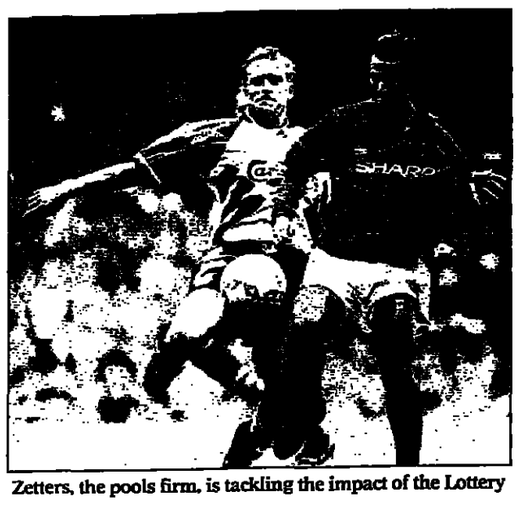
Berkeley is expected to raise its offer for Southern next week to the equivalent of at least 80p in cash and shares, with the cash element alone likely to rise from 52p previously to at least the 70p a share level on offer from Danka.

Berkeley eased ½p to 6p. Southern was unchanged at 69p, on heavy volume of 14.13 million shares, and Danka added 7p to 425p.

Meanwhile, it was another roller-coaster day for equities, with investors remaining nervous after a disappointing Treasury auction and before today's Bundesbank meeting.

Currencies dominated early trading as the dollar suffered from the widely expected decision by the Federal Reserve to leave American interest rates unchanged and dollar-earners mirrored the currency's malaise.

But a stock shortage, after program trades, and a strong start on Wall Street bolstered sentiment in London and squeezed prices higher. The FT-SE 100 index shook off an early 17-point deficit to close at its best level, up 14.0 at 3,142.3. Among second-liners, the FT-SE 250 rose 5.6 points to 3,421.8. Volume reached 835.4 million shares, swollen by bed and breakfast deals before the end of the quarter this week and large,two-way program trades, said to have been done by Smith New Court, BZW and NatWest.



Zetters, the pools firm, is tackling the impact of the Lottery

Fisons was again at the centre of the takeover speculation stage as its shares strengthened another 7½p to 180p, on volume of 3.67 million shares, with the stock now within a couple of pence of its highest level for two years.

After a string of management changes, Fisons has sold two troublesome divisions, including scientific instruments, in an attempt to steer itself back on course, although hefty write-offs saw the group slump to a provision-driven pre-tax loss of £482.7 million in 1994. Market rumours of a bid for Fisons persist and **Zeneca**, the drugs company, steady at 880p, remains the hot favourite.

Elsewhere, results and trading statements continued to dominate market activity. There was another boost for building materials stocks after **Blue Circle**, up 10p to 294p, and **Harrisons & Crosfield**, up 4p to 156p, accompanied improved results with mixed signals on the prospects for the industry.

Elsewhere in the sector, **RMC** rose 15p to £10.11, **Redland**, which reports final figures today, 12p to 467p, **Tarmac** 1½p to 111½p, **Rugby** 5p to 119p, **Johnston** 16p to 287p, and **Hepworth** 3p to 295p. **Caradon** added 4p to 260p in spite of a recommendation to "sell into strength" and profit downgrades from Bikuben Securities. Profit-taking clipped **Next** 7p to 280p in spite of upgrades after a surge in full year, pre-tax profits to £107.4 million and a substantially improved dividend of 9p (5.5p) from the cash-rich fashion retailer. There was mild disappointment at the absence of share buy-back.

Croda International slumped 26p to 335p as brokers downgraded their forecasts after it unveiled a 12 per cent slide in final pre-tax profits to £42.78 million.

Zetters Group, the football pools company, climbed 8p to 104p after it made encouraging noises about the effects of action taken to stem the negative impact of increased competition since the launch of the National Lottery in October.

The group saw turnover fall by 11.6 per cent in the period between the launch of the Lottery and the introduction of changes in February. However, since the changes were made, Zetters' turnover has risen by 3.1 per cent from a year earlier.

Granada added 8p to 547p on reports that Fleming and Nomura, the brokers, were recommending the shares after a recent visit to the company.

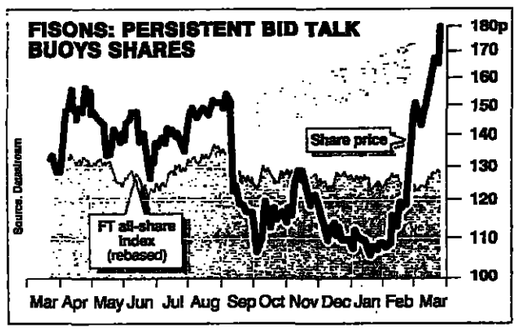
Nurdin & Peacock, the cash and carry group, added 7p to 190p, giving a two-day gain of 19p, as it continued to attract speculative interest after a recent approach from SHV Makro, the Dutch operator of the Makro cash & carry chain.

☐ **GILT-EDGED**: Gilts opened lower after overnight falls for US bonds. There was some disappointment that the latest £2 billion gilt auction of Treasury 8 per cent 2015 was only covered 1.24 times, against expectations nearer 1.5 times.

The June series of the long gilt future touched a low of £102¼ before recovering to close 13 ticks lower at £102¹⁹/₃₂, on volume of 67,000 contracts traded. Among conventional stocks, losses extended to £½ among medium and longer dated issues, while index-linked finished just over £½ lower.

☐ **NEW YORK**: Wall Street shares again reached record ground on a broad, powerful surge triggered by a drop in US February home sales, analysts said. At midday, the Dow Jones industrial average was up 43.23 points to 4,195.04.

Iceland Group improved 12p to 181p as brokers upgraded after results earlier this week. Analysts left a meeting at Hoare Govett with expectations that future dividend growth will more than match earnings growth. But some brokers, including NatWest, suggest the shares have risen far enough.



MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones 4195.04 (+43.23)
S&P Composite 507.63 (+3.73)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Average 16460.73 (-221.00)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng 8732.75 (-95.18)

Amsterdam:
EOE Index 393.10 (+0.33)

Sydney:
AO 1893.0 (-6.7)

Frankfurt:
DAX 1916.88 (+7.92)

Singapore:
Straits 2122.41 (+18.17)

Brussels:
General 6793.46 (+19.22)

Paris:
CAC-40 1852.42 (+15.23)

Zurich:
SKA Gen 585.30 (+3.20)

London:

FT 30	2405.9 (+10.5)
FT 100	3142.3 (+14.0)
FT-SE Mid 250	3421.8 (+5.6)
FT-SE-A 350	1558.7 (+5.9)
FT-SE Eurotrack 100	1236.95 (-5.50)
FT A All-Share	1538.43 (+5.43)
FT Non Financials	1659.20 (+6.71)
FT Fixed Interest	110.34 (-0.14)
FT Govt Secs	91.42 (-0.37)
Bargains	35644
SEAQ Volume	959.3m
USM (Datastrm)	146.93 (-0.11)
US$	1.6130 (+0.0135)
German Mark	2.2219 (-0.0185)
Exchange Index	85.2 (-0.2)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.2045
£:SDR	1.0366
RPI	146.9 Feb (3.4%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Albright & Wilson (150)	164	+1
Beale	180	...
Colleagues	150	+9
Dallywin (128)	130	...
Datrontech (130)	136	...
Expro Intl (175)	176	+1
Geared Inc Inv C (100)	100	...
Golden Rose Cms (135)	119	...
HTR Inc/Gth Split (100)	101	...
-ditto- Split Div Pf (100)	104½	...
Inv Capital Wts	19	...
Inv Tst of Inv Tsts	84	...
Inv Tst of Inv Tsts Wts	56	...
Melrose Energy Wts	3½	...
Mont UK Smlr Co's (100)	95	...
-ditto- Wts	43	...
Nat Power (p/p) (476)	162	-2½
PowerGen (p/p) (512)	184	- ½
Schrdr Inc Gwth Fd Uts	515	-2
Scot Ornti Smlr Co (100)	95	...
-ditto- Wts	40	...
Superframe Grp (50)	43	...
Superframe Wts	6	-1
Throg Dual Zero Div Pf	102	...
Zotefoams (145)	175	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Acorn Computer n/p (80)	5½	...
Beauford n/p (28)	¼	...
Horace Smi App n/p (90)	37	+3
Marley n/p (112)	11	...
Rhino Group n/p (8)	¼	...
Unit Group n/p (39)	1½	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Abbey National	470p (+10p)
Blue Circle	294p (+10p)
Johnston	287p (+16p)
Antofagasta	288p (+10p)
AB Food	613p (+9p)
Guinness	460p (+14p)

FALLS:

Hardys & Hansons	244p (-10p)
Croda	335p (-26p)
Norbain	378p (-12p)
Rothmans	474p (-10p)
Mitel	294p (-10p)
Amersham	829p (-16p)

Closing Prices Page 29

TEMPUS

Greg's new neighbour

WHEN Greg Dyke of London Weekend and Roland Rat fame took the helm in January at Pearson's television division, much was made of the mismatch between his demotic approach and populist feel and the more patrician approach of Pearson. It is therefore tempting to see the purchase of the producer of *Neighbours* as a clear statement of the way forward.

Pearson is justifying the claim that there will be no earnings dilution from the Grundy purchase by assessing annual financing costs, allowing for tax, of $14.4 million, less than the $15.6 million pre-tax Grundy made during calendar 1994. In addition, there should be an advantageous tax charge, even if it will not match the 15 per cent rate that Monaco-based Grundy is currently enjoying, while there should be cost savings from shifting some production to Thames TV's Teddington studios.

All very well, but two concerns sent Pearson's price lower yesterday. One is the departure from day-to-day control of the now staggeringly-rich Mr Grundy himself, who is staying on in some vaguely defined consultancy role. The second is the lumpy nature of the earnings from his company, which could as easily turn south again, as witness the 10 per cent decline between the 1993 and 1994 reported financial years as certain productions were pulled off the air.

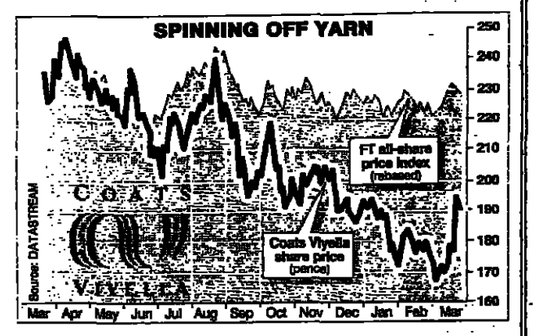
Pearson has just this week had the embarrassment of seeing Mindscape, its acquisition of a year ago, come in with profits of half what had been expected, and the board must be hoping lightning does not strike in the same place twice.

Coats Viyella

THE shake-out of carpets and yarns in the recent disposal programme leaves Coats Viyella with an unpleasant £51 million exceptional charge that conceals more promising news about the rest of the business.

Underlying profits rose by a respectable 18 per cent and the sale of the poorer performing businesses will yield positive benefits in the current year as the core operations have stronger market positions and generally higher margins. Group margins last year would have been just under 8 per cent rather than 7 per cent if carpets and yarns & fabrics had been excluded. Coats's cash profile also improves, with operating cash flow rising to 10 per cent of sales, from 7.5 per cent. Moreover, the disposal proceeds will reduce year-end gearing of 32 per cent to about 23 per cent. That leaves greater scope for Coats to make acquisitions of more higher-margin businesses.

The big threat to margins in the current year is rising raw material costs. So far, Coats has been able to contain these through passing on price rises to customers.



Blue Circle

BLUE CIRCLE could soon find itself with an embarrassment of riches. A combination of higher cement prices and increased capacity utilisation at its plants has led to a surge in profits. At the same time, Blue Circle has kept a lid on growth in working capital and cash is pouring through the business. By the end of this year the company could have net cash in the bank.

The tough question will be how to spend it. Blue Circle has not had a happy history of buying companies, amply demonstrated by last year's write-offs on the sale of the New World cookers company. The company also has its hands full improving the return from a mixed collection of consumer businesses making radiators and boilers. In the UK, Potterton is being savaged by a discounter seeking to steal some of its 30 per cent share of the market, while in Germany, Brötje is suffering from imports due to the high mark.

Blue Circle might be better off buying a cement works: its US plants are nearing 95 per cent capacity and demand is expected to grow this year. Opportunities also exist in Asia. The danger is that Blue Circle will buy at the peak of the cycle and shareholders might be better off demanding more cash back than funding the next downturn.

Meggitt

SCEPTICS will find it hard not to see a link between yesterday's news that Meggitt plans to sell off its contract engineering operations and the revelation last month that the acquisitive conglomerate, TT Group, had acquired 4 per cent.

Meggitt dismisses any such suggestion claiming that a business review had been launched six months ago. Whatever has prompted the corporate soul-searching, the disposal programme launched yesterday is long overdue. Meggitt wants to leave high-risk engineering contracts: the company supplies equipment for oil rigs but last year contracting sales of more than £70 million only produced £2 million in profit. The company would rather focus on manufacturing where it makes cockpit instrumentation for aircraft and electronic systems for processing sales transactions.

Meggitt's strategy is sensible: jettisoning the low return contracts should enable it to double operating margins from the current 5 per cent level. A successful disposal would give Meggitt £50 million in cash to develop the business. But the company needs to build up credibility after an indifferent profits record and a manufacturing disaster last year. The TT stake should be a useful goad to Meggitt's board or an alternative strategy if the existing one fails to deliver.

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Mar	944-938	May	1023-1021		
May	951-950	Jul	1031-1029		
Jul	965-964	Sep	1040-1039		
Sep	978-977	Dec	1055-1053		
Dec	994-993				
Mar	1014-1013		Volume: 11429		

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Mar	3060-3030	Nov	2920-2910
May	3030-3011	Jan	2900-2890
Jul	2991-2990	Mar	2890-2870
Sep	2953-2943		Volume: 1860

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Dec	321.9-21.0
Spot: 386.0		Mar	318.9-16.0
May	375.5-75.1	May	318.9-15.0
Aug	365.0-64.5	Aug	316.8-12.5
Oct	332.5-31.6		Volume: 2014

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on March 28

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB	90.80	128.97	122.69
(+/-)	-2.06	-1.73	+0.96
Eng/Wales:	90.44	128.75	121.52
(+/-)	-0.77	-1.53	+0.77
(%)	-12.0	-23.0	+8.0
Scotland:	94.15	129.87	126.96
(+/-)	+4.38	-2.57	+1.85
(%)	-26.0	-25.0	-13.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	17.85	(n/c)
Brent 15 day (May)	17.35	+0.05
Brent 15 day (Jun)	17.20	+0.05
W Texas Intermediate (May)	19.05	+0.05
W Texas Intermediate (Jun)	18.90	+0.10

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

Premium Gas .15	B: 176 (n/c)	O: 178 (n/c)
Gasoil EEC	156 (n/c)	157 (n/c)
Non EEC 1H May	153 (n/c)	154 (n/c)
Non EEC 1H Jun	152 (n/a)	153 (n/a)
3.5 Fuel Oil	96 (n/c)	98 (n/c)
Naphtha	169 (n/c)	171 (n/c)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Apr	153.25-53.50	Jul	151.50 BID
May	151.00-51.25	Aug	153.00-53.50
Jun	150.50-50.75		Vol: 14676

BRENT (6.00pm)

May	17.36-17.38	Aug	16.90-16.92
Jun	17.16-17.18	Sep	16.83-16.85
Jul	17.00-17.02		Vol: 20053

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
May	114.20	May	109.25
Jul	115.30	Sep	100.75
Sep	101.35	Nov	101.65
Nov	102.40	Jan	103.75
Jan	104.40	Mar	105.65
Volume: 360		Volume: 25	

POTATO (£/t)	Open	Close
Apr	323.2	307.0
May	350.0	347.5
Jul	unq	unq.
	Volume: 169	

RUBBER (No 1 RSS CIF p/k)

Apr 123.75-124.25

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $50/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Mar 95	unq	unq	2245
Apr 95	2100	2060	2090
May 95	2005	1980	1994
Jul 95	1820	1780	1818
Vol: 424 lots		Open Interest: 4516	
		Index 2234 -25	

(Official) (Volume prev day)	LONDON METAL EXCHANGE		Rudolf Wolff
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	Cash: 2938.0-2939.0	3mths 2905.0-2906.0	Vol: 1681575
Lead ($/tonne)	938.0-939.00	908.00-909.00	79575
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1000.5-1001.5	1027.0-1028.0	363475
Tin ($/tonne)	5630.0-5640.0	5680.0-5690.0	27845
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1793.0-1794.0	1818.0-1818.5	868325
Nickel ($/tonne)	7511.0-7515.0	7650.0-7660.0	57558

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100	Jun 95	3146.0	3190.0	3130.0	3173.0	13770
Previous open interest: 65527	Sep 95	3158.0	3160.0	3158.0	3197.0	80
FT-SE 250	Jun 95	3440.0	3440.0	3440.0	3460.0	100
Previous open interest: 4157	Sep 95					0
Three Month Sterling	Jun 95	92.67	92.70	92.63	92.66	20695
Previous open interest: 400536	Sep 95	92.28	92.30	92.23	92.26	12635
	Dec 95	91.96	91.96	91.90	91.93	6360
Three Mth Eurodollar	Jun 95				93.53	0
Previous open interest: 1194	Sep 95				93.31	0
Three Mth Euro DM	Jun 95	94.94	94.96	94.93	94.94	21939
Previous open interest: 723349	Sep 95	94.75	94.75	94.70	94.71	15989
Long Gilt	Mar 95				102-13	0
Previous open interest: 91078	Jun 95	102-28	102-28	102-08	102-19	67975
Japanese Govmt Bond	Jun 95	114.01	114.27	113.91	114.16	2372
	Sep 95				113.86	0
German Gov Bd Bund	Jun 95	91.99	92.08	91.76	91.92	93013
Previous open interest: 176961	Sep 95	91.35	91.36	91.35	91.46	102
Three month ECU	Jun 95	92.99	93.04	92.95	93.00	2076
Previous open interest: 18579	Sep 95	92.99	93.03	92.97	92.99	743
Euro Swiss Franc	Jun 95	96.23	96.34	96.23	96.27	2926
Previous open interest: 37870	Sep 95	96.13	96.20	96.13	96.18	1950
Italian Govmt Bond	Jun 95	93.68	94.05	93.38	93.75	30272
Previous open interest: 47138	Sep 95				93.10	0

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6¼ Finance Hse 7
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 6¼ Low 5¾ Week fixed: 6¼
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 6¼; 3 mth 6⅜. Sell: 2 mth 6⅛; 3 mth: 6¼.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	6¼-6⅛	6⅜-6¼	6⅜-6¼	6⅜-6¼	
Sterling Money Rates:	6¼-6⅛	6⅜-6⅜	6⅜-6⅜	7¼-7	7⅛-7⅛
Interbank:	6⅜-6¼	6⅜-6⅜	6⅜-6⅜	7¼-7	7⅛-7⅛

Overnight: open 6¼, close 6.

Local Authority Deps:	6¼	n/a	6¼	7	7¼
Sterling CDs:	6⅛-6⅜	6¼-6⅜	6¼-6⅜	7⅛-6⅝	7⅛-7⅜
Dollar CDs:	6.03	n/a	6.18	6.38	6.66
Building Society CDs:	6¼-6¼	6⅜-6⅜	6⅜-6⅜	7¼-7	7¼-7½

ECGD: Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: Jan 31. 1995 Agreed rates Feb 26, 1995 to Mar 25, 1995 Scheme III: 7.87%. Reference rate Dec 31, 1994 to Jan 31, 1995 Scheme IV & V: 6.624 %.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	6⅛-5⅞	6¼-5¾	6¼-6	6⅜-6¼	5¾-4¾
Deutschemark:	4⅞-4¾	4⅞-4¾	5-4⅞	5⅛-4⅝	5¼-4¼
French Franc:	8-7½	8¼-7½	8¼-7½	8¼-7½	9-7
Swiss Franc:	3⅛-2⅞	3⅛-2⅞	3⅛-2⅞	3⅜-2⅛	4¼-3¼
Yen:	2⅛-1⅝	2⅛-1⅝	2⅛-1⅝	1⅝-1⅜	2¼-1½

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $382.80-383.20 Close: $383.10-383.60 High: $383.50-384.00
Low: $382.25-382.75 AM: $383.00 PM: $383.00

Krugerrand: $384.00-386.00 (£238.80-240.50)

Platinum: $421.60 (£261.20) Silver: $4.80 (£2.975) Palladium: $176.00 (£109.05)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for March 29	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.4862-2.4941	2.4891-2.4924	¼-¼pr	1-¼pr
Brussels	45.59-45.94	45.59-45.70	3pr-par	10-3pr
Copenhagen	8.8580-8.9220	8.8580-8.8720	½-1¼ds	1⅞-3⅝ds
Dublin	0.9930-1.0007	0.9982-1.0007	3-6pr	6-10pr
Frankfurt	2.2199-2.2278	2.2212-2.2242	¼-¼pr	1-¼pr
Lisbon	234.73-236.83	235.19-235.83	81-93ds	253-265ds
Madrid	205.40-206.29	205.87-206.17	46-58ds	158-188ds
Milan	2728.40-2758.50	2728.40-2738.30	8-12ds	31-37ds
Montreal	2.2562-2.2681	2.2562-2.2593	0.28-0.40ds	0.61-0.82ds
New York	1.6084-1.6134	1.6084-1.6094	0.03pr-par	0.15-0.11pr
Oslo	9.9460-9.9790	9.9530-9.9680	1¾-1¼ds	3¼-2½pr
Paris	7.8450-7.8840	7.8450-7.8590	1¾-1¼ds	3½-4ds
Stockholm	11.7620-11.8650	11.7620-11.7860	1¾-2¼ds	5¾-6¼ds
Tokyo	141.84-142.68	141.84-142.10	¼-¼pr	1¾-1¼pr
Vienna	15.55-15.69	15.55-15.58	2¾-1¾pr	7¼-5pr
Zurich	1.8280-1.8344	1.8310-1.8338	¼-¼pr	1¼-1pr

Source: Extel Premium = pr. Discount = ds.

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.3802-1.3812
Austria	9.70-9.71
Belgium (Com)	28.41-28.42
Canada	1.4032-1.4037
Denmark	5.5150-5.5180
France	4.8802-4.8817
Germany	1.3788-1.3798
Hong Kong	7.7324-7.7334
Ireland	1.6141-1.6181
Italy	1705.00-1705.65
Japan	88.35-88.40
Malaysia	2.5335-2.5345
Netherlands	1.5450-1.5455
Norway	6.1825-6.1855
Portugal	145.09-146.09
Singapore	1.4150-1.4160
Spain	127.98-128.13
Sweden	7.3256-7.3331
Switzerland	1.1376-1.1386

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.6100-1.6127
Australia dollar	2.2206-2.2235
Bahrain dinar	0.6020-0.614
Brazil real*	1.4618-1.4661
China yuan	12.80 Buy
Cyprus pound	0.7085-0.7185
Finland markka	6.980-7.096
Greece drachma	361.75-368.75
Hong Kong dollar	12.4453-12.4546
India rupee	50.40-51.36
Indonesia rupiah	3569.00-3637.60
Kuwait dinar KD	0.47-0.48
Malaysia ringgit	4.0777-4.0818
New Zealand dollar	2.4765-2.4792
Pakistan rupee	49.30 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.9875-6.1135
Singapore dollar	2.2789-2.2812
S Africa rand (com)	5.7800-5.7861
U A E dirham	5.8625-5.9865

Barclays Bank GTS • Lloyds Bank

FT-SE VOLUMES

3i	1,800	Legal & Gn	3,200
ASDA Gp	5,400	Lloyds Bk	5,600
Abbey Natl	5,600	MEPC	312
Allid Dom	2,600	Marks Spr	7,500
Argyll Gp	3,500	NatWst Bk	7,500
Arjo Wiggn	5,200	Nat Power	3,600
AB Foods	1,100	Nth Wst W	1,400
BAA	3,400	P & O	2,200
BAT Inds	5,700	Pearson	2,800
BOC	1,300	PowerGen	2,800
BP	16,000	Prudential	9,000
BTR	10,000	RMC	1,200
BT	10,000	RTZ	3,700
Bk of Scot	3,400	Rank Org	1,600
Barclays	5,700	Reckitt Col	1,300
Bass	3,300	Redland	2,800
Blue Circle	5,300	Reed Intl	4,300
Boots	3,300	Rentokil	2,400
Bowater	1,700	Reuters	5,300
Brit Aero	1,400	Rolls Royce	6,200
Brit Airways	4,800	Ryl Ins	5,300
Brit Gas	7,500	Ryl Bk Scot	3,200
Brit Steel	8,000	Sainsbury	4,200
Burmah Cast	812	Schroders	46
Cable Wire	4,700	Scot & New	1,800
Cadbury	4,700	Scot Power	2,500
Caradon	5,000	Sears	8,100
Carlton Cms	1,500	Svrn Trent	399
Cm Union	5,300	Shell Trans	10,000
Courtaulds	1,200	Slebe	2,000
De La Rue	1,600	Smith Nph	6,000
Eastern Elec	370	Smith Nph	7,600
Enterpr Oil	538	Sthrn Elec	463
Forte	7,000	Std Chartd	3,000
GKN	3,300	Sun Allince	6,000
GRE	5,800	TI Gp	2,900
GUS	2,000	TSB	3,000
Gen Acc	1,300	Tate & Lyle	1,100
Gen Elec	5,300	Tesco	9,600
Glaxo	10,000	Thames W	1,100
Granada	3,500	Thrn EMI	2,300
Grand Met	6,800	Tomkins	7,500
Guinness	5,700	Unilever	2,000
HSBC	5,000	Utd Biscs	1,600
Hanson	9,400	Vodafone	9,400
ICI	2,000	Warburg (SG)	649
Inchcape	4,100	Whitbread	1,500
Kingfisher	1,800	Willms Hld	2,200
Ladbroke	9,000	Wolseley	2,900
Land Secs	1,700	Zeneca	4,000

WALL STREET

	Mar 29 midday	Mar 28 close
AMP Inc	37	36⅝
AMR Corp	64½	65⅜
AT & T	53	53⅜
Abbott Labs	37⅜	37⅞
Advanced Micro	9½	9⅝
Aetna Life	57½	57
Ahmanson (H F)	18	17⅝
Air Prod & Chem	49¼	49¼
Albertson's	31⅛	31½
Alcan Aluminm	26⅛	26½
Alex Standard	17⅜	17½
Allied Signal	38⅜	38
Alum Co of Am	40⅜	40⅜
Amax Gold Inc	5½	5½
Amerada Hess	49¼	48⅝
Amer Brands	39	38½
Amer El Power	31½	31½
Amer Express	34⅜	34⅜
Amer Gen Corp	33	33
Amer Home Pr	75⅜	76
Amer Intl	108⅛	107⅞
Amer Stores	25½	25⅜
Ameritech	43½	43⅜
Amoco	62⅝	62½
Anheuser-Busch	58⅛	58⅛
Apple Computer	34⅜	34½
Archer Daniels	19½	19⅜
Armco	6½	6⅝
Armstrng Wrld	46⅝	46½
Asarco	25⅞	25⅞
Ashland Oil	35¾	35¾
Atl Richfield	114¼	114½
Auto Data Pro	65⅜	64⅝
Avery Dennison	39⅞	39⅝
Avon Products	69½	69⅜
Baker Hughes	30⅜	30⅜
Baltim Gas & El	23½	23⅜
Banc One	28½	28
BankAmerica	49¾	49⅝
Bank of NY	32½	32½
Bankers Tr NY	54¼	53⅞
Barnett Banks	45⅝	45
Bausch & Lomb	39⅜	38¾
Baxter Intl	33⅝	34
Becin Dickson	36¼	35⅝
Bell Atlantic	55⅛	55
Bell Industries	21½	21½
BellSouth	61½	60⅝
Black & Decker	28⅜	28⅜
Block (H&R)	43⅞	43⅜
Boeing	53⅝	51½
Boise Cascade	32⅜	32½
Bristol Myrs Sq	64½	64½
Browning Ferris	34⅜	33⅝
Brunswick	20	19⅝
Burlington Nthn	68⅜	68½
CBS	65½	64⅜
CNA Financial	75⅞	76
CPC Intl	56½	56⅜
CSX	79⅞	79⅝
Campbell Soup	50½	50
Can Pacific	15¼	14⅞
Cpd Cities ABC	89	88
Carolina Pwr	27⅜	27½
Caterpillar	55½	51½
Central & Sw	24½	23⅞
Champion Intl	49⅞	49¾
Chase Manhat	35⅛	35⅛
Chemical Bk	38⅜	38⅜
Chevron Corp	47⅞	47⅞
Chrysler	40⅜	39⅝
Chubb Corp	80¼	79½
Cigna Corp	75⅞	75⅜
Cincorp	64½	64⅜
Clorox	62½	61½
Coastal Corp	28⅜	28⅜
Coca Cola	58	57
Colgate-Palmolive	67½	67½
Columbia Gas	27⅝	27⅞
Compaq Comp	35½	35
Comp Ass Int	63⅜	62⅝
Conagra	33⅝	33⅝
Contrail	35⅝	34¼
Cons Edison	27⅞	27
Cons Nat Gas	38⅝	38
Cooper Inds	39⅞	39⅜
Corning Inc	36⅜	35½
Crown Cork	44¼	43⅞
Dana Corp	25⅞	24½
Dayton Hudson	72⅞	72½
Deere	80	80
Delta Air Lines	61½	60
Deluxe Corp	29⅝	29⅜
Detroit Edison	27½	27½
Digital Equip	38½	38
Dillard Dept St	27	26⅞
Disney (Walt)	55½	55⅜
Dominion Res	36⅜	36½
Donnelley (RR)	35⅜	35
Dover Corp	64⅜	63⅞
Dow Chemical	72⅞	71⅞
Dow Jones	38⅜	38
Dresser	21¼	20⅞
Duke Power	38⅜	38⅛
Dun & Bradstreet	55⅞	55⅜
Du Pont	69½	69
Eastman Kodak	54⅜	53⅝

THE TIMES

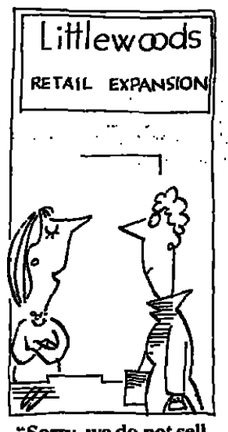
CITY DIARY

Granting a new lease of life

LIFE begins at 70 ... providing you have the know-how, and are not a judge. *SmithKline Beecham*, the pharmaceutical combine, wants to change its "directors must retire at 70" *rule so that* William Grant can continue to serve. Grant has been a director of SB for 21 years, *but by the time of the April* 24 annual meeting he will have turned 70. Under SB's current articles, Grant must retire. However, he has such a wealth of experience in the US healthcare market that SB believes "it would be wise to retain his expertise" — at least for another year. But fellow director Sir Robert Clark, SB's vice chairman and 71, is going to retire.

Dogfighting

TWO birds with one stein, perhaps? Friedrich Zimmermann, the former German Interior Minister, has run into heavy flak over the discovery that he not only sits on the supervisory board of Lufthansa, the German national carrier, but happens to work for a Munich law firm, Nörr, Steifenhöfer & Lutz, which *advises the airline's* domestic arch-rival Deutsche BA, a British Airways associate. Pure coincidence, is how Herr Zimmermann dismisses the matter.



"Sorry, we do not sell lottery tickets"

Star treatment

THREADNEEDLE Asset Management, the *one-year-old merged fund* management business of Eagle Star and Allied Dunbar, rather rubs Gartmore's face in it with the tenor of its announcement that it has poached Simon Davies from Gartmore, where he was international investment director. Davies, 36, joins Threadneedle as chief investment officer with overall responsibility for a £25 billion investment portfolio. Threadneedle certainly labours the point about how important Davies was at Gartmore ... "Simon has been one of the driving forces behind Gartmore's considerable achievements in the last few years". "He is one of the most highly rated fund managers of his generation in the City." "He is a member of Gartmore's investment policy committee ...." "His appointment is a coup" ... etc. Gartmore should sharpen its pen for the inevitable day it snatches somebody from Threadneedle.

Coming a Kopper

DEUTSCHE BANK, Germany's largest commercial bank, came unstuck yesterday. No sooner had *Hilmar* Kopper, the chief executive, outlined cost-cutting plans to a Frankfurt audience when the *cardboard* placard bearing the bank's logo peeled off the wall behind him and fell on the heads of several *of the company's* top executives. Luckily none was hurt. "We should have set aside an extra five marks *for better adhesive* to cover such risks too," Kopper quipped.

COLIN CAMPBELL

ECONOMIC VIEW ANATOLE KALETSKY



The long road to putting the Great back into Britain

The economic rebound has been the mirror image of an exceptionally deep recession

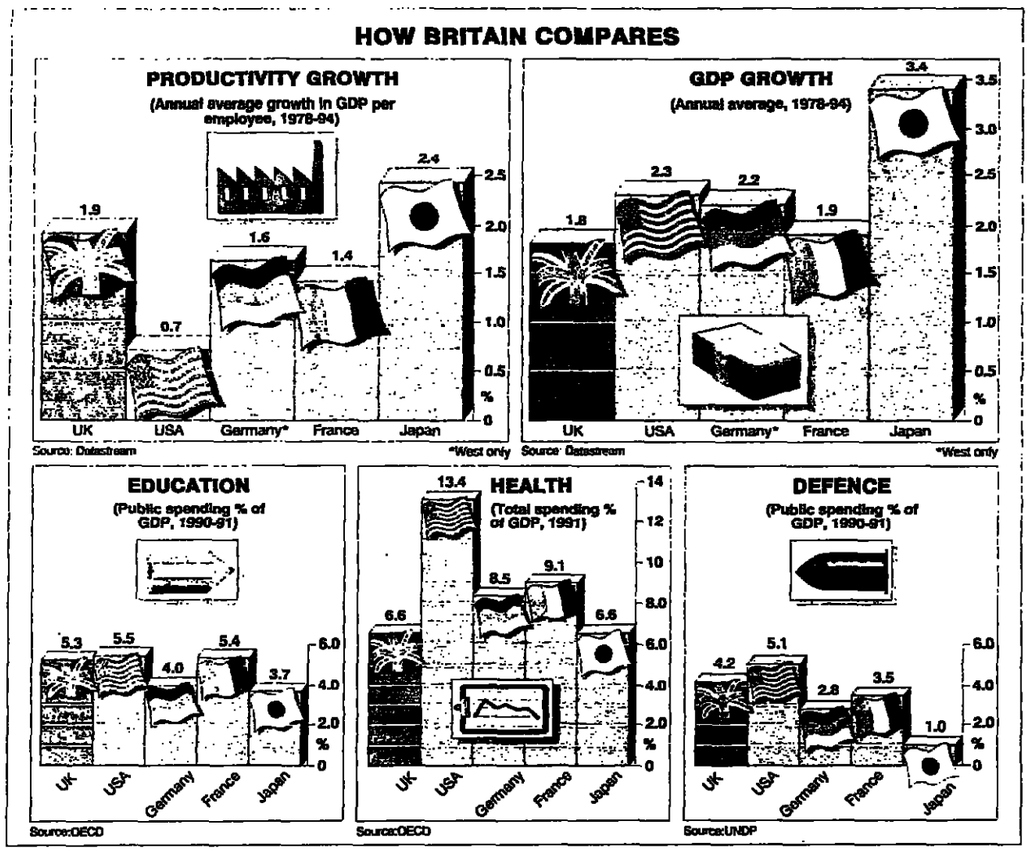
The idea of putting the *Great back into Britain* was supposed to have been the theme of the conference on Britain in the World, which John Major launched in London yesterday. That, at least, was the fervent hope of Foreign Office officials and Ministers: the timing could not have been more propitious to win some public support in their eternal battle with the Treasury over diplomatic funding, as well as to distract the media from *their obsession with Tory in*fighting and sexual prurience.

In the event, the conference turned out to be a damp *squib. Partly this was* attributable to Mr Major's predictably pettyfogging performance as the keynote speaker: *his idea* of a broad strategic vision for the 21st century was to announce a bureaucratic revision to the terms proposed by Britain for the UN sanctions against Iraq. There were, however, *four more important* reasons why almost any campaign to "put the Great back in Britain" was bound to fall flat.

The first is that many of the statistics suggesting Britain's newfound world leadership are misleading — and people often have a clear intuitive sense of what is really happening behind the statistics the politicians spout. The second is that Britain's greatest assets are cultural, not economic. They have, therefore, been *systematically* undervalued and degraded by the bookkeeping mentality that has dominated the country since *the 1960s. It is typical* of modern Britain that it cannot even bring itself to have a Minister of Culture, describing him instead as the Minister for National Heritage, which sounds reassuringly materialistic.

The third reason why tub-thumping about Britain's greatness is unlikely to produce much resonance with the public is that the British people are the least chauvinistic in the world — to their great credit and to my personal benefit as a Briton by naturalisation, rather than birth. There can scarcely be another place on earth where one sees the national flag fly so rarely, where minority races and religions are treated with such toleration, and where most people cannot even make up their mind what their country is called when addressing a postcard from abroad: England, Britain, Great Britain or UK?

The fourth reason for public scepticism about Britain's role in the world is the one that currently dominates all the headlines: the country's inability to settle its relationship with Europe.



Since this is supposed to be a column about economics, I will confine my further observations to the first and last points. In the rest of this column I will look at Britain's relative economic performance. Next Thursday, I hope to review where Britain stands in relation to Europe, a task that should be helped by spending the weekend at the Königswinter conference of the *Deutsch-Englische Gesellschaft*. (You see what I mean about the ambiguity over Britain's name.)

There is much to be said for the argument that Britain is advancing economically in relation to other countries and, in any case, stands much higher in the world economic pecking order than many cynics believe. The latter point is often forgotten, when Britain is described as a "middle-ranking economy" or a "third-rate power". In fact, Britain comes either fifth or sixth in terms of economic output (depending on what exchange-rate is used for comparisons with Italy) — and is only about 15 per cent behind France. The next largest national economies, Canada and Spain, are only about half as big.

Such backward giants such as China and Russia are much further back, when comparisons are made in terms of the market exchange rates which determine a country's command of world resources and its impact on world trade. China's GDP in 1992, for example, was $442 billion, compared with Britain's $1,025 billion and Spain's $548 billion.

Objectively, therefore, Britain is neither middle-ranking nor third rate, but occupies an important place among the second rank of world economies, *behind America, Japan* and Germany, but alongside Italy and France. Neither is it true that Britain has been particularly negligent in maintaining its "social infrastructure". As the bottom row of charts shows, our Government spends rather more than most other countries on education and far more on defence. Only in the health service is relative underfunding a legitimate complaint.

More recently the news for *Britain has become even bet*ter. Since 1993, our economy really has grown faster and our unemployment has fallen more dramatically than in any other European country. It is also true, as the Government constantly reminds us, that Britain's exports performance is now better than Germany's or Japan's, that Britain receives 40 per cent of inward investment into Europe, that the present economic recovery is well-balanced between regions and that growth shows every sign of continuing for many years ahead.

The trouble with all this good news is that Britain's recent economic rebound has been the mirror image of an exceptionally deep recession, as the public is all too well aware. Taking the five years between 1989 and 1994 as a whole, Britain has actually done rather worse than most other countries, in spite of its recent out-performance. Worse still, the same is true if we look further back, at the miracle years of the mid-1980s, when many of the benefits of Lady Thatcher's reforms supposedly came into play.

Consider the top row of charts, which compare performance over the past two economic cycles as a whole. Britain did only slightly better than other major economies in terms of productivity growth. And even this apparent advantage was achieved by cutting employment, instead of raising output. Looking at GDP growth, rather than productivity, Britain was in last place.

Only by starting such comparisons from 1980, when *British industry was already* decimated by recession, do the statistics show Britain's GDP outperforming other countries — and even then by only a tiny margin. Again, the British people doubtless have an instinctive feel for the truth, which is why they are unimpressed by Government boasts that Britain's policies are self-evidently more successful than Europe's.

A longer view also casts a less rosy light on Britain's *export and investment performance*. Exports are now growing strongly, but from a base that was badly depressed by *the two recessions and the* Treasury's long-standing addiction to an overvalued pound. Foreign-owned companies now provide 40 per cent of Britain's manufactured exports and 33 per cent of total investment. *Is this a wonderful achievement?* Or is it an illustration of how far Britain's indigenous manufacturers have declined?

Such questions do not imply that Britain's painful reforms in the 1980s were in vain. Even if Britain has declined slightly in relation to the rest of the world since the late 1970s, at least the rate of decline, which was quite precipitous in the *1960s and 1970s, has unambig*uously slowed. Moreover, Britain might have held on to the gains it had made in the 1980s had it not been for the exceptionally long and intense monetary squeeze Mr Major maintained from 1990 to 1992. Without the boom and bust caused by shadowing the mark and joining the ERM, Britain's position relative to Europe would almost certainly have improved over the whole 16-year period of Tory *Government*.

That simple fact, I believe, goes a long way to explain the sudden hostility to Europe that *developed from 1992 onwards* in the Conservative Party and the country at large. But more of that next week.

How Jaeger fashioned a new style

Susan Gilchrist reports on a change of image for a classic fashion brand

Dramatic change is taking place at Jaeger. The brand, long associated with the shires' twin-set and pearls brigade, is now looking decidedly more stylish. And its results *are anything but staid.*

Yesterday the fashion retail division of Coats Viyella, the Jaeger and Viyella *brands*, reported profits 19 per cent ahead to £10.8 million, from £9.1 million. They have more than quadrupled over the past three years at a time when many premium brands have suffered.

The catalyst for much of this change has been Fiona Harrison, Jaeger's chief executive, who joined in September 1991 from Clairol. She had no fashion experience, but was determined to reinvigorate the brand image and instil commercial discipline.

"I was a great fan of the brands and I felt they were under-exploited," she says. "It was a very resilient business but had not grown as fast as its competitors." Whereas Jaeger *thrived in the Sixties and* Seventies, it suffered in the Eighties as a plethora of German and Italian brands such as Max Mara, Escada and Mondi upped the stakes. "The business was delivering significantly lower than normal returns," she said.

> When you say Jaeger, words like 'traditional' spring to mind

Its saving grace was the core of loyal customers, who ensured the brand's survival. But Ms Harrison recognised it also had to attract new customers if it wanted to grow. "When you mention Jaeger to customers, words like 'classic' and 'traditional' spring to mind," she said. "That's great, but we also wanted to make it a more stylish and aspirational brand, not just worthy."

Last spring some of the more traditional elements of the range were dropped in favour of a more fashionable look. Ms Harrison says *it was a change in emphasis* rather than a full-scale repositioning. Nevertheless she agrees that in its first season the balance was shifted too far. "We did not have enough of the traditional look and, as a result, operating profits fell 25 per cent in the first half."

The new approach is to keep a core classic range and to add "capsule" collections, aimed at more fashion-conscious consumers. Jaeger London, its first capsule collection, is now being rolled out to 30 stores. Early signs are promising, with half of sales to existing customers and half to customers who have never bought Jaeger before. "To me that says we are building the core and the new."

Other capsules will also be developed — all with the Jaeger brand name. "We believe in using the Jaeger name to leverage our business rather than launch a new brand with a different name as some of our competitors do." Launching a more fashionable collection that requires significantly shorter lead-times has had a knock-on benefit to the rest of the business. The period from design to shop floor is just 13 weeks for Jaeger *London compared with up* to nine months for the rest of the business. "Extending *these lines into other* parts of the range will enhance margins because you can respond quickly to best-selling lines." Jaeger has radical plans for a detailed database on both account and non-account customers. The company has spent £5 million on IT in the past three years and now *has an Epos system that* tracks customers' spending. "If a regular customer goes into any store the staff will know who you are and what you buy. They will know your size, favourite colours and what you bought recently. In this business — where personal service is vital and a sale can take up to three hours — that's leading edge."

But Ms Harrison is under no illusions that much re*mains to be done. Operating* margins of 7 per cent are still below average for a premium brand business. She has *set a target of 10 per cent that* she hopes to achieve within the next two years.

Colin Narbrough at a monument to French technology

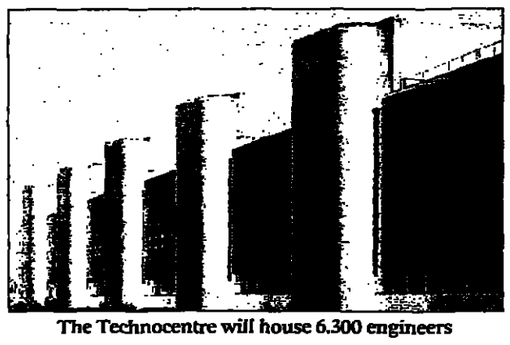
Renault builds for the 21st century

Just a stone's throw from the grand baroque Palais de Versailles, Renault, France's part-privatised carmaker, is building a Fr6.4 billion "Technocentre" that it hopes will ensure it a prominent place in the future European car industry.

The contrast between the company's vision and its immediate circumstances could not have been more starkly illustrated than on Tuesday, when it had to switch the venue of its annual results conference to avoid protesting workers at its Billancourt headquarters on the edge of Paris.

As foreign journalists toured the Technocentre site, whose prototype building section should start work in a few weeks, Renault was elsewhere engaged in an old-fashioned industrial dispute over pay. Three weeks of disruption has cost Fr200-300 million.

Yet Louis Schweitzer, Renault chairman, is no French corporate dreamer. The 1994 *results confirmed that* even though the state holds a majority stake, Renault has been one of Europe's most profitable volume carmakers.



The Technocentre will house 6,300 engineers

The group net profit of Fr3.7 billion was the eighth consecutive year in the black and tripled profits from 1993, when its suffered a traumatic breakdown of a merger plan with Volvo, the Swedish carmaker. But ending the affair brought a Fr488 million capital gain from the share sales.

As if to fête the public offering in November of a heavily oversubscribed 27.9 per cent of the company, Renault eliminated its financial debt for the first time, moving to a Fr1.45 billion net surplus.

Renault's capital was given a Fr2 billion boost by the Government in conjunction with the flotation, which raised Fr8.6 billion. The political success of the share sale was that two thirds of the traditionally militant workforce took up the offer.

Hopeful of full privatisation after this spring's presidential election, M Schweitzer said that Renault had been a "good investment" for the state. The Paris Bourse was unimpressed and marked down the share below the flotation price on the view that the operating profit, though tripled to Fr2.32 billion, was disappointing.

In spite of France's strong franc policy, Renault last year raised its market share in Europe to 11 per cent from 10.6 per cent. But the best year for the marque in a decade, with four models — Clio, Renault 19, Twingo and Laguna — are in Europe's top 20, failed to prevent operating profits on cars falling to Fr289 million from Fr905 million.

The Technocentre, due for completion in 1998, will house 6,300 engineers and specialists in all aspects of research and development. A central aim is to cut model development time to 38 months from the 58 months taken for the Safrane, saving up to Fr1.5 billion per model.

Banks are funding most of the cost of the centre, half an hour's drive from Paris. But Renault has an option to buy them out when, it hopes, prices on its old sites have recovered.

Annual Meeting of Shareholders

The Annual Meeting of Shareholders will be held on Thursday, May 11, 1995, 10:00 a.m. at the BASF-Feierabendhaus, Leuschnerstraße 47, Ludwigshafen/Rhine, Germany

Agenda

1. Presentation of the Financial Statements of BASF Aktiengesellschaft and BASF Group for 1994; presentation of the 1994 Annual Report covering BASF Aktiengesellschaft and the BASF Group; presentation of the Supervisory Board Report.
2. Declaration of dividend.
3. Ratification of the actions of the Supervisory Board.
4. Ratification of the actions of the Board of Executive Directors.
5. Appointment of auditors.
6. Election of Supervisory Board member.
7. Elimination of existing and creation of new authorized capital.
8. Approval of a control and profit-transfer agreement.

Shareholders wishing to participate in the Annual Meeting and to exercise their right to vote must have deposited their shares during normal office hours and in the prescribed form at a depository bank. The shares should remain deposited until the conclusion of the Annual Meeting. Shareholders have the right to vote by proxy. Depository banks and the full Agenda are published in the "Bundesanzeiger" of the German Federal Republic Nr. 62 of March 29, 1995.

Depository banks in the U.K.:

Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited
S.G. Warburg & Co. Ltd.

The deposit is only effective if the shares are submitted by Wednesday, May 3, 1995.

The Board of Executive Directors
Ludwigshafen/Rhine,
March 29, 1995

BASF Aktiengesellschaft
67056 Ludwigshafen

BASF

Objective measures can be used, say **Brian Friedman** and **Oliver Overstall**

How to set boardroom pay

Beneath all the headlines on directors' pay have been calmer voices working to restore credibility to remuneration committees. The Institute of Directors published guidelines on disclosure of directors' pay in January. The Greenbury committee, due to report in the summer, is also seeking to formulate rules on the subject. Arthur Andersen has also published a study to establish an objective and consistent methodology for benchmarking top executive pay.

Informed commentators call for greater disclosure. Although in the short run this is likely to create even more headlines, American experience is that public disclosure exerts a moderating influence on levels of executive reward.

In the US, the SEC requires public companies to publish a proxy statement with their annual accounts. This statement contains more detail of executive remuneration than is required in the UK. For instance, it must contain precise descriptions of salary, bonuses and stock options for each of the five most highly compensated executives, identified by name. Options are valued to provide shareholders with a measure of inherent value within each option grant.

The format of the data is standardised so that it can be assimilated quickly by the reader. By contrast, in the UK the level and format of disclosure can vary considerably.

The New York Stock Exchange also requires additional disclosure, such as proof that shareholders' approval has been sought for share awards, including full disclosure of the number, price, period during which options will be issued, any terms for exercise and the maximum number of options that may be awarded to any individual.

KIPPA MATTHEWS



Brian Friedman, left, and Oliver Overstall favour benchmarks

Proxy statements must also contain a report by the remuneration committee describing the policy adopted and the means used to determine executive compensation. Whether this level of detailed disclosure will emerge as a recommendation of the Greenbury committee remains to be seen. In any event, one possibility must be a move towards US-style proxy statements.

The fundamental question remains — how should directors' pay be set? A reliance on following what others do has become notorious for tightening the salary spiral. Rather, what the Institute of Directors calls the "range and weight of responsibilities" of the director and "appropriate market considerations" should be taken into account in setting, first and foremost, the basic salary.

Arthur Andersen has developed a method of assessing reward linked to the size and complexity of an organisation. Apart from size (market capitalisation, turnover and number of employees), factors considered include the internationality, breadth of products and markets, risk, regulatory and competitive environment and rates of change experienced by the organisation.

Incentive/bonus payments to top executives have been particularly notorious — the Arthur Andersen study found no significant correlation between bonuses and company performance as measured by total shareholder return. In the US, a full description of incentive plans, whether they be long, medium or short term, has to be included in the proxy statement.

Under current UK disclosure requirements, it is often difficult to discern what is going on. Leading companies are, however, responding to the current environment by heeding calls for greater disclosure and clarity.

One logical outcome of this trend will be an increasing desire among companies and their shareholders for bonuses to be benchmarked against comparable organisations.

Benchmarking bonus plans based on standardised measures of corporate performance is achievable. Benchmarking bonus plans based on personal performance may be just a pipedream.

Brian Friedman and Oliver Overstall lead the Senior Executive Pay practice within Arthur Andersen.

Accountants boring? Not likely



ROBERT BRUCE

GEOFF WHITTINGTON has always been an iconoclast. And, as Price Waterhouse Professor of Financial Accounting at Cambridge, his powers show no signs of waning. His recent annual Aberystwyth lecture was on the theme of "Is accounting becoming too interesting?" His opening summed up the dilemma.

"Goethe wrote double-entry accounting is one of the finest inventions of the human spirit — unfortunately he was joking." But he went on to describe the huge strides accountants have made in the past 25 years. The real question seemed to be how such a boring profession has attracted so many top graduates, shown huge growth and come to affect everyone in the land.

The attraction of graduates he dealt with easily. At an induction talk he once gave in Bristol, "when I asked 42 students how many thought that accounting would be interesting only seven hands were raised in support. When I asked them whether they thought that accounting would lead to a well-paid job, all 42 students raised at least one hand: some raised both."

But this has brought its own problems. "Accounting," he said, "has become interesting to the public outside the profession, and many within it find the glare of publicity unwelcome — they feel accounting has become too interesting." That simply means accountants like greater income and influence but have not yet taken the responsibilities on board. Nowhere is that more true than in the professional bodies.

In particular, Whittington looked at the English ICA, partly because it is statistically the dominant body and partly because he is a member. "The future of the English ICA," he said, "cannot be viewed with unalloyed optimism. There are three long-running pressures that will continue to make life for the ICA ever more interesting: integration of the profession, apparent alienation of many individual members and regulatory pressures."

None of these is a new problem. But, this week, integration problems are again to the fore. Last Friday, the council of the CIMA, the management accounting body, voted to take the process of merging with the English ICA to a more detailed stage. The council of the English ICA will vote on the same idea next Wednesday. It is thought a two-stream body with 90,000 members in industry and 50,000 in practice is proposed. But the education systems would be different and the title "chartered accountant" would not apply to all.

It is difficult to see what the English ICA is really up to. Launching its advertising campaign to stress the value of being a chartered accountant at the same time as attempting to merge with people whose right to be called chartered accountants it has repeatedly blocked made no sense.

But the answer to the question of the English ICA's long-term motives could perhaps be found in some of Whittington's figures. These showed that the English ICA student intake for 1992-93 was lower than that of 1969 and, at 4,074 people, well down on the glory years of 1986-87 with 6,287 or 1989-90 with 6,894 students.

It is students, , as both the CIMA and the certified accountants know, that turn into good long-term income. The English ICA finds itself in a position where it needs much more income and, the cynics point out, merging two bodies, cutting the overheads and increasing membership, and hence income, by 40,000 or so members, is not a bad strategy.

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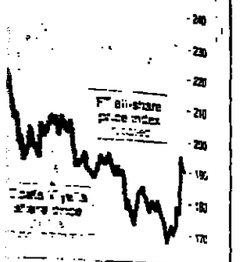
but two concerns sent ower yesterday. One is the ay-to-day control of the now Mr Grundy himself, who is e vaguely defined consultan- ld is the lumpy nature of the s company, which could as ream as witness the 10 per tween the 1993 and 1994 years as certain produc- on the air.

ast this week had the of seeing Mindscape, its ear ago come in with profits been expected, and the board lightening does not strike in ice.

re-engineering products and making costs out. If remains confident it can continue to absorb the pressure and its scale certainly means that it is better equipped to do so than many of its competitors.

Given these advantages and its clearer focus on its core activities, the shares, on a prospective p/e of about 13 times, look good value.

OFF YARN



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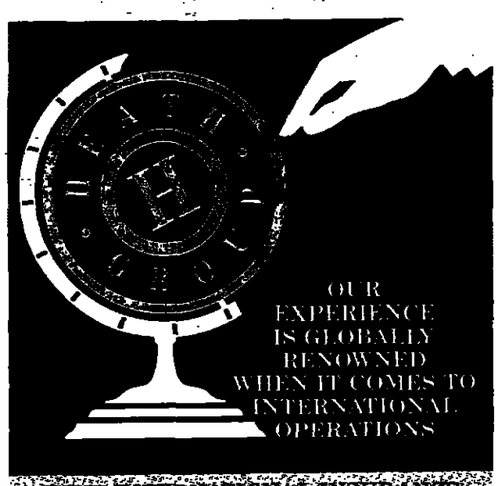
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107¹⁄₃₂	101¹⁄₃₂	Exch 10¹⁄₄% 1995	101¹⁄₃₂	– ¹⁄₃₂	10.12	6.55
113¹⁄₃₂	105¹⁄₃₂	Treas 12¹⁄₄% 1995	105¹⁄₃₂	...	12.28	6.55
117¹⁄₃₂	109¹⁄₃₂	Treas 14% 1998	109¹⁄₃₂	...	13.26	5.89
121¹⁄₃₂	109¹⁄₃₂	Treas 15¹⁄₄% 1996	109¹⁄₃₂	...	14.65	7.04
117¹⁄₃₂	109¹⁄₃₂	Exch 13¹⁄₄% 1996	109¹⁄₃₂	...	12.44	7.23
112¹⁄₃₂	103¹⁄₃₂	Conv 10% 1998	103¹⁄₃₂	...	9.68	7.61
109¹⁄₃₂	103¹⁄₃₂	Treas 7¾ 1997	103¹⁄₃₂	...	7.13	7.98
121¹⁄₃₂	109¹⁄₃₂	Treas 13¹⁄₄% 1997	109¹⁄₃₂	...	12.14	7.78
114¹⁄₃₂	104¹⁄₃₂	Exch 10¹⁄₂% 1997	104¹⁄₃₂	...	10.64	7.85
110¹⁄₃₂	100¹⁄₃₂	Treas 9¼% 1997	101¹⁄₃₂	...	8.62	8.05
131¹⁄₃₂	114¹⁄₃₂	Exch 15% 1997	115¹⁄₃₂	...	12.56	8.11
114¹⁄₃₂	102¹⁄₃₂	Exch 9¼% 1998	103¹⁄₃₂	...	9.41	8.28
118¹⁄₃₂	105¹⁄₃₂	Treas 7¼% 1998	107¹⁄₃₂	...	7.45	8.58
125¹⁄₃₂	107¹⁄₃₂	Treas 9¼% 1998-00	107¹⁄₃₂	...	7.04	8.58
131¹⁄₃₂	114¹⁄₃₂	Treas 14% 1998-01	115¹⁄₃₂	...	12.15	8.40
140¹⁄₃₂	120¹⁄₃₂	Treas 15¹⁄₂% 1998	123¹⁄₃₂	...	12.27	8.40
135¹⁄₃₂	105¹⁄₃₂	Exch 12% 1998	119¹⁄₃₂	...	10.82	8.41
116¹⁄₃₂	100¹⁄₃₂	Treas 8¼% 1999	103¹⁄₃₂	...	9.18	8.41
132¹⁄₃₂	111¹⁄₃₂	Exch 12¹⁄₂% 1999	112¹⁄₃₂	...	10.86	8.46
129¹⁄₃₂	109¹⁄₃₂	Treas 10¹⁄₂% 1999	109¹⁄₃₂	...	9.62	8.46
121¹⁄₃₂	99¹⁄₃₂	Conv 10¹⁄₂% 1999	99¹⁄₃₂	...	8.57	8.50
121¹⁄₃₂	104¹⁄₃₂	Conv 10¹⁄₄% 1999	105¹⁄₃₂	...	8.64	8.52

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

1994/95 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gss red yld
119¹⁄₃₂	99¹⁄₃₂	Conv 9% 2000	101¹⁄₃₂	...	8.85	8.47
99¹⁄₃₂	85¹⁄₃₂	Treas 8% 2000	98¹⁄₃₂	...	8.16	8.42
139¹⁄₃₂	119¹⁄₃₂	Treas 13% 2000	119¹⁄₃₂	...	10.96	8.56
135¹⁄₃₂	109¹⁄₃₂	Treas 10% 2001	109¹⁄₃₂	...	9.41	8.54
123¹⁄₃₂	105¹⁄₃₂	Treas 9¼% 2001	105¹⁄₃₂	...	7.50	8.54
113¹⁄₃₂	95¹⁄₃₂	Treas 8% 2002	96¹⁄₃₂	...	8.21	8.55
127¹⁄₃₂	104¹⁄₃₂	Treas 10% 2003	107¹⁄₃₂	...	9.28	8.55
139¹⁄₃₂	118¹⁄₃₂	Treas 11¾% 2001-04	117¹⁄₃₂	...	10.23	8.75
109¹⁄₃₂	89¹⁄₃₂	Treas 9¼% 1999-04	74¹⁄₃₂	...	4.66	7.27
135¹⁄₃₂	101¹⁄₃₂	Conv 9¼% 2004	105¹⁄₃₂	– ¹⁄₃₂	8.81	8.54
105¹⁄₃₂	84¹⁄₃₂	Treas 8¼% 2004	86¹⁄₃₂	...	7.66	8.54

LONGS (over 15 years)

1994/95 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gss red yld
99¹⁄₃₂	77¹⁄₃₂	Treas 6¼% 2010	81¹⁄₃₂	– ¹⁄₃₂	7.71	8.44
129¹⁄₃₂	100¹⁄₃₂	Conv 9% 2011	104¹⁄₃₂	– ¹⁄₃₂	8.64	8.51
125¹⁄₃₂	100¹⁄₃₂	Treas 9% 2012	104¹⁄₃₂	– ¹⁄₃₂	8.62	8.49
117¹⁄₃₂	92¹⁄₃₂	Treas 8¼% 2012-15	94¹⁄₃₂	– ¹⁄₃₂	7.46	8.46
114¹⁄₃₂	89¹⁄₃₂	Treas 7¼% 2012-15	90¹⁄₃₂	– ¹⁄₃₂	7.26	8.42
128¹⁄₃₂	99¹⁄₃₂	Treas 9% 2017	103¹⁄₃₂	– ¹⁄₃₂	8.48	8.42
139¹⁄₃₂	109¹⁄₃₂	Exch 12% 2013-17	110¹⁄₃₂	– ¹⁄₃₂	9.16	8.55

UNDATED

94¹⁄₃₂	36¹⁄₃₂	War Ln 3½%	41¹⁄₃₂	– ¹⁄₃₂	8.43	...
37¹⁄₃₂	27¹⁄₃₂	Treas 2½%	29¹⁄₃₂	...	8.42	...

INDEX-LINKED

1994/95 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gss red yld
205¹⁄₃₂	167¹⁄₃₂	Treas IL 2% 1996	200¹⁄₃₂	– ¹⁄₃₂	1.97	3.46
113¹⁄₃₂	105¹⁄₃₂	Treas IL 4⅜% 1996	108¹⁄₃₂	...	2.80	3.74
178¹⁄₃₂	165¹⁄₃₂	Treas IL 2½% 2001	166¹⁄₃₂	– ¹⁄₃₂	3.44	3.88
173¹⁄₃₂	159¹⁄₃₂	Treas IL 2½% 2003	164¹⁄₃₂	– ¹⁄₃₂	3.38	3.91
173¹⁄₃₂	159¹⁄₃₂	Treas IL 2½% 2006	164¹⁄₃₂	– ¹⁄₃₂	3.37	3.91
169¹⁄₃₂	165¹⁄₃₂	Treas IL 2% 2008	170¹⁄₃₂	...	3.51	3.87
166¹⁄₃₂	148¹⁄₃₂	Treas IL 2½% 2009	154¹⁄₃₂	– ¹⁄₃₂	3.56	3.89
175¹⁄₃₂	154¹⁄₃₂	Treas IL 2½% 2011	159¹⁄₃₂	– ¹⁄₃₂	3.58	3.89
148¹⁄₃₂	135¹⁄₃₂	Treas IL 2½% 2013	137¹⁄₃₂	– ¹⁄₃₂	3.71	3.89
159¹⁄₃₂	134¹⁄₃₂	Treas IL 2½% 2016	139¹⁄₃₂	– ¹⁄₃₂	3.74	3.89
159¹⁄₃₂	139¹⁄₃₂	Treas IL 2½% 2020	139¹⁄₃₂	– ¹⁄₃₂	3.75	3.91
159¹⁄₃₂	139¹⁄₃₂	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	139¹⁄₃₂	– ¹⁄₃₂	3.76	3.92

Source: Fininf

© USM; ✓ Price at suspension; † Ex dividend; ‡ Ex scrip; ▲ Ex rights issue; ▼ Ex all; § Ex capital distribution; * Figures or report awaited; ... No significant data. Constituents in bold are constituents of the FTSE 100 Index.

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

ABI UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD
01895 259 783

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Gridlend Amer	161.40	170.80	- 1.00	0.24
Gridlend Equity	231.60	246.80	- 0.60	2.20
Gridlend Euro	194.10	206.40	- 0.80	0.56
Gridlend Eqnt Bal	108.20	112.30		2.99
Gridlend Gilt	73.00	75.25	- 0.25	5.40
Gridlend Japan	152.80	161.70	+ 1.10	. .

AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS
01200 553 231

General Acc	528.30	562.10†	- 1.10	2.99
General Inc	468.60	490.10†	- 0.80	2.99
Gilt Growth Acc	355.70	378.50	- 0.60	3.05
UK Growth Inc	243.40	259.00	- 0.50	3.05
Higher Inc Acc	657.30	699.30	- 1.10	4.24
Higher Inc Inc	379.30	404.20	- 0.70	4.24
Gilt/Fxd Int Acc	185.70	196.10†	- 0.70	6.62
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	88.01	92.96†	- 0.33	6.62
Nth America	266.90	284.00	- 0.90	. .
Far East	330.10	351.20	- 0.70	0.33
Europe	264.70	281.60†	+ 0.90	1.00
Inv Exempt	70.98	75.50	- 0.13	3.19
Inv Fncdtnls Acc	99.35	105.70†	- 0.18	5.05
Inv Fncdtnls Inc	71.17	75.72†	- 0.11	5.05
Global Opps	82.47	87.74	+ 0.25	0.57
Balanced Acc	53.04	56.43	- 0.12	3.21
Balanced Inc	51.74	55.05	- 0.11	3.21

ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS
0345 717 373

High Income:				
Gilt & Fixed Int	126.10	133.90†	- 0.40	7.47
High Inc Equity	155.80	166.40	- 0.60	4.73
Worldwide Bond	266.30	284.70†	- 0.90	4.57
Capital Growth:				
American Growth	280.10	299.20	- 0.30	.80
Asian Pacific	253.40	312.10	- 2.50	. .
Assets & Earnings	249.10	265.70	- 1.20	3.11
Comdty & Energy	91.85	97.71†	- 0.34	.13
Euro Capital Inc	127.30	135.90	- 0.80	.71
(Accum Units)	135.50	145.30	- 0.70	.71
General	222.90	237.10†	- 1.40	2.29
Japan	111.80	119.60	- 0.50	. .
Mastermind	133.20	142.50	- 0.70	1.99
UK Growth Dist	110.10	118.40	- 0.60	3.25
US Emerging Cos	132.90	140.40	- 0.10	. .
Income & Growth:				
(Accum Units)	353.70	376.50	- 1.80	4.31
European Growth	262.50	279.70	+ 1.70	0.60
Europe	208.70	222.40	+ 0.90	0.63
Gilt/Fxd Int Bond	89.52	73.75	+ 0.76	0.50
Global Bond	61.95	65.21	+ 0.03	6.30
Global Growth	118.40	126.10	- 0.30	. .
Japan Growth	173.60	187.80	+ 0.20	. .
Japan Smaller	146.10	155.70	+ 0.10	. .
Korea Trust	75.76	83.56	- 1.43	. .
Portfolio	123.50	132.20†	+ 0.10	1.80
(Accum Units)	227.10	243.30	+ 0.20	1.80
UK Growth	79.37	85.20	- 0.25	2.97
UK Smaller Cos	77.38	84.47	- 0.62	1.80
Select Managers	71.07	76.16	- 0.03	1.00

BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD
0171 250 3300

Intl Growth Port Inc	71.27	75.62	. .	. .
Special Opps Inc	51.76	55.09†	. .	. .

BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MGRS LTD
0141 229 6000

Balanced Growth	101.80	107.75	- 2.30	1.97
(Accum Units)	114.46	121.13	- 2.68	1.97
Smaller Cos	99.50	105.29	+ 3.51	1.29
Higher Yield #	42.66	45.14	- 0.24	4.76
American Gth Inc	71.22	75.37†	- 0.71	. . .
European Growth	120.64	127.66†	+ 0.06	. .
(Accum Units)	128.06	135.48	+ 0.06	. .
Global Bond Inc #	58.24	27.19	- 0.05	6.29
Mngd Pfolio Inc	39.25	41.51†	- 0.06	1.54
(Accum Units)	40.00	42.31	- 0.06	1.54
Int Spec Opps	104.63	110.72	- 0.67	. .
Pacific Gth	113.44	120.05	- 0.33	. .
Formerly LAS:				
UK General #	72.67	76.90	- 0.63	3.73
(Accum Units) #	74.43	78.75	- 0.65	3.73
Japan	56.25	59.53	+ 0.12	. .
Gilt & Fixed Int #	93.70	95.61†	- 0.24	7.99

BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD
01271 480 7216

Short Dated Gilt	62.48	63.28†	- 0.06	8.47

CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD
0161 837 5060

Envlsn	147.90	157.40	- 0.30	1.88
UK Growth	160.90	171.20†	- 1.10	2.51
UK Income	128.20	136.40	- 0.80	4.62

CANADA LIFE UNIT TST MGRS LTD
01707 861 122

Can Gen Dist	178.30	189.80	- 0.80	2.19
-do- Income Dist	164.40	118.70	- 0.10	4.62
(Accum Units)	315.10	334.00	- 0.40	4.62
Gilt & Fxd Int	38.76	41.09†	- 0.16	8.62

CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD
0181 200 5885 Enq 0181 208 5885 Dlg 0181 208 5362

American & Gen	151.50	161.20†	- 1.10	. .
European Inc	73.34	77.63	- 0.48	0.59
Smaller Cos (4-1)	75.86	80.73†	+ 0.06	2.20
Growth	400.20	425.80†	+ 2.30	2.65
Income & Growth	388.10	412.90	- 0.30	4.15
(Accum Units)	553.70	588.10	- 0.68	4.15
Japan & Gen	66.60	70.67†	- 0.18	. .
Monthly Portfolio	536.54	£100.02	- 36.00	3.22
(Accum Units)	£115.17	£119.32	- 44.00	3.22
Special Sits	91.53	97.36	- 0.16	2.61
High Yield	£12.64	£13.04	- 2.00	4.59

CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
0171 606 9708

Cazenove Portfolio	79.73	85.02	- 0.07	2.57
American Portfolio	90.19	96.06	- 0.46	1.20
European Portfolio	90.25	93.96	- 0.31	0.84
Japanese Portfolio	68.91	64.79†	+ 0.08	. .
Pacific Portfolio	158.57	136.10	- 0.29	0.96
UK Inc & Growth	72.88	76.86	- 0.05	3.38
Utility & Bond	50.25	52.86	- 0.05	7.20

CENT BD OF FIN OF CHURCH OF ENG
0171 588 1815

Inv Fund	636.50	639.60	.	4.87
Fxd Int Sec	145.85	146.00	.	9.93

CENTURY UNIT TRUSTS LTD
0171 332 5000

UK General Tst	60.92	64.80	- 0.17	3.07

CDF-CHARITIES OFFICIAL INV FD
0171 588 1815

Inc	625.05	625.22	.	4.87
Accum	676.90	676.98	.	. .
Fixed Int Inc	119.00	119.15	.	9.73
Fixed Int Acc	187.15	187.50	.	. .

CHARTERED ASSET MGMT LTD
0171 837 7667

Intl Growth	105.05	114.94	.	. .
UK Income	102.26	111.38	.	5.414

CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD
0171 407 5966

Beckman Intl	76.48	80.57	- 0.33	1.48
Black Bp-Tech	26.53	28.12	.	. .
Accm Ethical Tst	137.66	145.15	.	0.74
City Fin Assets	67.63	71.01	.	1.26
City Fin America	85.13	90.43†	+ 0.64	. .
City Fin Intl	71.21	75.47	- 1.56	0.97
City Fin Japan	152.34	159.95	+ 3.92	. .
Fears Inc Cap	262.65	264.78	.	1.73
Fears Inc Inc	386.98	392.85	.	4.15
Buckley World Gth	115.18	122.05†	- 1.0	. .
Fairmnt Cap Gth	127.62	135.77	.	. .
Fairmount Intl	138.50	147.34	.	4.39
City Fin Pfflo Inc	52.71	56.07	.	. .

CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD
0800 373 393

American Gwth	58.03	62.05	- 0.13	. .
Asia Mngd Gwth	34.66	37.07	- 0.03	0.49
Dragon Growth	61.25	65.52	- 0.20	0.65
Equity High Inc	78.72	83.74†	- 0.04	4.31
(Accum Units)	108.65	113.46	- 0.06	4.31
European Gwth	47.85	50.90	+ 0.19	1.23
Evergreen	35.64	37.42	+ 0.03	. .
General Equity	80.23	85.12	- 0.07	3.00
Japan Growth	47.77	51.09	- 0.09	. .
Pedigree Gwth	48.55	51.65	- 0.07	2.97
Prof Sm Cos Inc	28.43	30.24	+ 0.01	1.56
(Accum Units)	29.53	31.41	.	1.56
Retirement Inc #	24.62	26.19	+ 0.02	6.15
Special Sits	35.80	38.08	- 0.09	2.24
UK & Overseas	45.39	48.29	- 0.12	1.44

COLONIAL MUTUAL UT MGRS LTD
01634 838 000

Capital	66.78	69.73†	.	2.26
Income	59.39	62.95†	.	4.19

COMMERCIAL UNION FINANCIAL MGMT INTL LTD
0181 686 9818
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)

Income Funds				
Equity Inc	148.66	158.15†	- 3.91	5.53
Fixed & Convertible	37.58	40.08†	- 0.78	7.67
Monthly Inc Pfo	45.95	48.88†	- 0.41	9.17
Preference Share	43.28	46.04†	- 1.87	8.02
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	116.91	124.37†	- 0.63	6.53
Balanced Pfo	144.93	154.17†	- 1.18	3.08
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	35.63	37.90†	- 0.58	1.79
(Accum Units)	41.50	44.15†	+ 0.13	1.79
UK & General	74.91	79.69†	- 1.24	2.78
(Accum Units)	95.02	101.09†	- 0.23	2.78
UK Growth	136.28	144.98†	- 0.19	2.35
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	176.35	187.58†	+ 0.72	0.26
Far Eastern Gth	118.26	125.81†	- 0.31	. .
Global Bond	76.27	80.00†	- 2.21	6.33
Japan Growth	110.20	117.23†	+ 0.55	. .
North America	166.13	176.73†	- 1.55	. .
Overseas Growth	69.80	74.26†	- 0.36	. .
Worldwide Growth	82.01	85.97†	- 0.34	0.08
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	91.41	91.41†	- 1.96	6.05
Homeowner Fixed	74.74	79.51†	- 0.85	1.90
Dealer Fixed	122.22	130.02†	- 0.32	2.49

CONFEDERATION FUNDS MGMT LTD
01438 744 840

Growth Inc	55.75	59.30	.	3.40
(Accum Units)	60.35	64.21	.	3.40
High Income	32.61	34.69	.	4.90
Japan	33.93	36.09	.	. .
Smaller Cos Inc	28.75	30.58	.	1.00
Smaller Cos	30.44	32.38	.	2.80
North American	32.05	34.08	.	0.40
European	34.94	37.16	.	0.70

CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD
0171 407 5966

Consistent UT	29.34	31.48†	.	3.53

COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD
0800 526 358

Growth	135.50	142.10	- 0.10	2.18
Income	64.92	69.07	- 0.20	5.17
European	57.48	61.05	- 0.11	1.00
Recovery	148.00	157.50†	+ 0.20	2.32

CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD
0171 283 9494

Equity Dist	774.00	797.20	.	3.78

CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD
01277 690 370

Fellowship Tst	70.44	74.93	- 0.49	1.32
Income #	5288.90	5743.90	- 0.66	4.78
(Accum Units) #	5413.50	5899.85	- 1.38	4.78
Smaller Cos	151.40	161.60	- 0.30	0.80
(Accum Units)	184.90	195.70	- 0.20	0.80
Jx Portfolio	75.25	80.05†	- 0.67	7.50
High Inc Port #	65.39	70.16	- 0.15	4.95

DEMENSIONAL 1ST MGMT LTD
0171 416 0177

Euro Small Cos	£14.94	£15.31	.	. .
Japan Small Cos	£11.14	£11.35	.	. .
UK Small Cos	£16.33	£17.26	.	. .
US Small Cos	£15.66	£16.17	.	. .

DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS
0171 377 8819

Dstr Inc	193.30	203.50	.	3.19

DUNEDIN UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0131 315 2500

European Gwth	258.30	273.40	+ 0.10	1.02
New Acqs	180.30	205.10	+ 0.50	0.15
Japan Growth	169.30	116.50	+ 0.80	. .
Jap Smlr Co	427.80	454.90	+ 4.40	. .
Nth Amer	254.50	268.30	+ 1.40	0.05
Dunedin Asia Pac Mt	108.40	114.90	- 0.40	0.39
UK Inc & Gth	203.80	217.40	- 0.80	3.06

EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD
01242 577 555

UK Balanced Inc	134.50	143.10	- 1.10	1.87
UK High Inc Inc	143.80	153.00	- 0.80	4.75
(Accum Units)	184.10	195.90	- 1.10	4.71
UK Prel & Fl Inc	56.45	59.91	- 0.20	5.23
Emmanuel Oppc	61.39	66.58	- 0.42	1.08
UK Smlr Cos #	47.85	50.90	- 0.09	. .

EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0345 080 030

American	119.70	126.90	- 0.90	1.36
Convertibles #	19.59	20.81†	- 0.02	6.73
Equity Income #	119.00	126.40†	- 0.10	4.19
Exempt	42.53	45.13	+ 0.19	0.44
Financial	41.69	44.30	- 0.09	1.69
Growth & Inc #	222.90	236.80	- 0.40	3.25
High Dbs #	147.40	156.60	.	4.78
International	360.50	383.00	- 1.30	0.13
Int Cap Inc	97.46	93.36	+ 0.02	2.95
Latin American	34.66	36.80	+ 0.48	. .
Pacific	72.53	77.17	+ 0.13	. .
Preference Share	20.92	22.23	+ 0.03	7.42
Tokyo	205.20	218.00	- 0.20	. .
UK Smaller Cos	213.60	226.90	+ 0.30	1.21

ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD
0171 242 0242

Exon Tech	194.16	207.24	- 3.52	1.84

ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD
0171 373 7261

Endurance Fd	189.00	201.10	.	1.03

EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
01595 451 480

European	75.20	78.16	+ 0.20	1.89
Ethical Tst	40.33	42.45	- 0.09	1.44
Far Eastern	276.31	290.85	- 0.40	2.16
High Income	125.54	132.15	+ 0.30	5.03
Intl Growth	210.54	218.00	+ 0.38	2.16
North American	197.97	113.65	- 0.69	1.35
Pelican	111.56	117.43	- 0.68	3.45
Smaller Cos	82.13	86.43	- 0.62	3.16
Special Sits	81.21	86.12	- 0.65	2.35
Tst of Inv Tsts	170.05	179.01	- 0.36	1.79

EVERMORE FUND MGMT LTD
0171 407 5966

Balanced	186.69	196.55	- 0.43	1.49
Smaller Cos Inc	330.16	343.92	- 0.74	1.49
Smaller Cos Acc	47.51	49.49	- 0.04	1.43
Recovery Acc	46.02	50.02	- 0.03	1.43

EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD
01392 412 144

Balanced	108.28	115.19	- 0.29	6.02
Capital Growth	76.55	82.09	- 0.01	. .
Fd of Inv Trts	41.39	44.14	- 0.01	0.65
High Income #	39.91	42.77	- 0.01	10.75
Warrant	47.21	51.31†	- 0.37	. .
Zero Preference	36.88	39.13	+ 0.02	. .

FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD
01273 220 707

Family Asset Tst	73.98	78.88	- 0.17	2.96
Family Income Tst	42.49	42.49	- 0.04	6.86
Family Trust	79.84	84.84	- 0.49	1.58
United Charities	247.30	263.60	- 0.70	4.22

FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD
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Cash Fund	100.00	100.00	.	5.90
Bond Fund				
Gilt & Fxd Int	26.61	28.70†	- 0.04	7.55
Int Bond	28.40	29.47	- 0.03	5.14
Income Funds				
High Income	22.93	24.13	- 0.04	5.20
Income Plus	103.50	110.10†	- 0.10	4.17
Amer Ex Inc	45.97	48.53	- 0.28	1.53
European Income	38.22	41.71†	- 0.02	1.66
Far East Inc	61.43	65.31	- 0.20	2.34
Global Convertible	21.55	22.99†	- 0.04	3.57
UK Div Gnth	22.19	24.86†	- 0.03	1.50
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	56.02	59.76	+ 0.50	. .
American	238.80	253.90	- 1.10	. .
Amer Spec Sits	114.00	121.70	- 0.80	. .
Japan Smaller Cos	34.79	37.17†	+ 0.24	. .
European	155.90	165.90†	- 0.42	. .
European Opps	58.13	61.81	- 0.15	. .
Global Priv	23.06	24.52	- 0.06	0.88
UK Growth	85.66	91.32	- 0.15	. .
Growth & Inc	134.30	142.86	- 0.36	2.23
Intl PEP	35.09	37.31	- 0.06	. .
Japan Spec Sits	84.21	89.61	- 0.06	. .
Malay	177.80	189.20	+ 1.30	. .
Managed Intl	251.69	276.58†	- 0.70	. .
Moneybuilder	49.85	52.89	- 0.03	. .
Recovery	45.45	48.33	- 0.03	. .
South E Asia	141.40	150.90	- 2.60	. .
Special Sits	482.30	512.60	+ 4.70	. .
Specialist Funds				
Cash Accum Units	108.72	108.72	+ 0.01	5.90

FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD
0171 814 2700

Balanced #	139.70	131.20†	+ 0.50	1.86
Inc Pfolio #	80.95	82.47†	- 0.16	3.48
Cap Pfolio	134.00	136.50	- 0.30	1.91
General Opps	116.70	118.80	+ 0.10	3.62
Growth Inc	29.22	29.80	- 0.10	1.69
Private Portfolio	383.30	391.30†	+ 2.40	1.34

FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT
Enq 0171 454 1494 Dlg 01277 291 010
Hypo Foreign & Colonial

European	105.70	111.70	+ 0.50	0.36
Emrg Asian	154.30	166.00	+ 0.10	. .
High Income	20.86	22.12	- 0.02	18.17
Ocean Income	65.65	69.58	- 0.35	3.45
UK Growth	102.80	110.00	- 0.30	1.95
UK Income	102.20	108.00	. .	3.67
US Smaller Cos	290.60	310.80	- 2.80	0.15

FOSTER & BRAITHWAITE FUND MANAGEMENT LTD
0171 407 5966

High Inc Eqty	45.79	48.15	- 0.11	3.38
-do- Inv Tst Inc	70.07	73.68†	- 0.14	3.76
Intl Growth	83.66	88.94	.	. .
Investment Trust	83.48	87.78†	- 0.25	. .
UK Smaller Cos	78.51	82.34	- 0.16	1.9

FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD
0171 374 4100

American Growth	55.43	59.22†	- 0.21	. .
(Accum Units)	56.43	59.22†	- 0.21	. .
Aims Smlr Cos	468.40	501.00	- 3.00	. .
(Accum Units)	478.50	511.80	- 3.10	. .
Capinc Tst	286.40	304.00†	+ 0.70	1.61
(Accum Units)	411.90	436.10†	+ 0.90	1.61
Cont Smlr Cos	56.59	60.62	- 0.28	0.51
(Accum Units)	59.51	63.75	- 0.30	0.51
Convertible	118.50	126.00	- 0.30	5.87
(Accum Units)	209.30	254.50	+ 0.50	5.87
Emerging Markets	61.31	65.46	+ 0.42	. .
(Accum Units)	61.37	65.56	+ 0.41	. .
European	111.10	117.80	+ 0.70	0.14
(Accum Units)	116.40	123.40	+ 0.70	0.14
Extra Income	316.00	336.10	+ 0.30	4.00
(Accum Units)	474.70	504.80	+ 0.30	4.00
Financial	116.00	124.50	- 0.20	0.30
(Accum Units)	122.13	131.50	- 0.30	0.30
Gilt Trust	61.54	63.45	- 0.21	6.37
(Accum Units)	85.94	88.62	- 0.28	6.37
Hrtsh Fund Inc	133.80	142.90	.	. .
(Accum Units)	133.90	142.90	.	. .
Income & Growth	181.70	193.30	+ 0.10	3.32
(Accum Units)	274.40	291.90	+ 0.20	3.32
Intl Growth	343.60	367.90	+ 0.70	. .
(Accum Units)	381.50	408.40	+ 0.50	. .
Japan & Gen	157.10	167.80†	+ 0.90	. .
(Accum Units)	158.70	169.50†	+ 0.90	. .
Monthly Inc	152.80	162.40†	+ 0.30	4.12
Managed Port Inc	98.43	103.60†	.	1.48
(Accum Units)	104.48	109.90	.	1.48
Quarterly Income	50.33	53.39†	- 0.04	4.73
(Accum Units)	54.08	57.52†	- 0.05	4.73
Recovery	315.10	336.90	- 0.50	0.13
(Accum Units)	370.50	396.00	- 0.60	0.13
Sm Cos Cont	51.85	55.26	- 0.13	2.79
(Accum Units)	53.63	57.29	- 0.14	2.79

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FP Am Smlr Cos	110.40	118.00	+ 1.40	0.0
FP Asian Growth	237.20	254.30	+ 2.0	0.0
FP Australian	283.40	304.00	+ 2.80	0.0
FP Equity Dist	364.50	387.70	+ 4.20	2.96
-do- Accum	769.80	818.90	+ 8.80	2.86
FP Euro Gth Dist	137.20	145.90†	+ 0.90	0.75
-do- Accum	286.50	248.60†	+ 0.90	0.75
FP Fixed Int Dist	127.30	134.50†	+ 0.50	7.47
-do- Accum	226.50	240.60†	+ 0.90	7.47
FP Intl Bond	55.13	56.30	- 0.22	6.61
FP Intl Gth Dist	87.27	92.84	- 0.45	0.76
-do- Accum	91.37	97.20	- 0.47	0.76
FP Ms Gwth Dist	183.40	194.20	+ 1.60	1.09
-do- Accum	202.10	214.00	+ 1.70	1.09
FP Pac Basin Acc	188.50	201.40	- 0.30	. .
FP Income	57.84	58.29	- 0.05	5.27
(Accum Units)	167.80	178.00	- 0.10	5.27
FP Sm Smlr Cos	302.80	322.90	+ 2.50	0.0
FP Monthly Dist	68.96	72.95†	- 0.10	6.68
FP Sfty Deposit	100.90	100.90	.	6.25
FP Eqty	81.56	86.98	+ 0.11	0.0
FP UK Focus	34.68	37.50	- 0.08	2.03
FP UK Growth	163.80	174.70	- 0.70	2.91
(Accum Units)	337.20	338.30	- 0.30	2.91
Stewardship Dist	315.70	335.80	+ 0.20	2.12
-do- Accum	386.10	410.70	+ 0.20	2.12
Shenzhen Inc Dist	67.18	71.46†	+ 0.02	3.91
-do- Accum	87.14	92.70†	+ 0.02	3.91
N Am Stdg Dist	93.06	98.93	- 1.27	0.86
-do- Accum	98.80	105.10	- 1.40	0.86
FP Managed Portfolio Service				
Capital Gwth Acc	103.20	109.70	+ 0.30	1.62
Open Cap Gth Acc	103.40	109.90	+ 0.30	0.57
Cap Gth Inc Inc	99.93	106.30†	.	2.43
Cap Gth Inc Acc	102.30	108.80†	.	2.43
Glbs Cp Gth Inc Ic	101.70	108.10†	- 0.10	3.66
Glbs Cp Gth Inc Ac	104.10	110.70	- 0.10	3.66
Mid Unit Trusts				
American	44.84	47.70	- 0.42	7.15
European	193.20	204.90	+ 0.90	0.79
(Accum Units)	206.80	221.60	+ 0.98	0.79
Intnl	38.41	38.45†	- 0.03	0.96
(Accum Units)	44.10	47.06	- 0.05	0.96

GA UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0345 581 1087

CANDA	226.30	239.30	+ 2.00	2.68
Cmdt	49.56	52.21†	+ 0.01	5.29
Growth Portfolio	72.46	76.76	- 0.01	0.82
Income Portfolio	68.45	63.94†	- 0.31	4.82

GEM DOLPHIN INV MGRS LTD
0171 236 6441

Special Sits	173.40	185.90	- 2.8	1.54
Dividend	83.44	89.24	- 1.48	4.27
Int Gth & Inc	208.60	223.50	- 3.30	3.15
UK & Gen	41.23	44.10†	- 0.54	2.16
Fmsl of Funds	59.64	63.79†	+ 0.21	. .

GT UNIT MANAGERS LTD
0171 710 4567 Dealing 0171 628 9431

Amer Spec Sits	178.00	190.40	- 0.40	. .
Extraincome	305.70	548.10†	- 0.10	6.37
Far East & Gen	226.60	242.40	- 0.10	. .
Glenealy	109.30	115.90	+ 1.20	. .
Income Inc	144.60	154.70†	- 0.40	4.73
(Accum Units)	156.10	167.00	- 0.40	4.73
International	253.20	313.60†	+ 0.10	. .
Intl Income	77.44	82.12	- 0.11	4.13
Japan & General	366.30	389.10	+ 0.10	. .
Korean Securities	62.94	67.32	- 1.58	. .
Smlr Cos Gth Inc	41.41	44.29	- 0.01	5.42
UK Capital Inc	154.20	165.00	.	1.40
UK Capital Acc	369.70	395.50	+ 0.10	1.40
UK Spec Sits	75.81	81.08	- 0.16	0.76
US & General	134.30	143.00	+ 0.70	. .
Wwide Spec Sits	139.00	142.30	+ 0.90	. .

GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS
0171 782 2000 Dlgs only: 01277 264 421
UK Growth Funds:

British Growth	44.84	48.00†	- 0.34	2.69
Cmnk Tract	137.15	137.15	+ 0.02	5.65
Practical Inv Inc #	108.63	116.18†	- 0.20	3.41
(Accum Units) #	248.33	265.59†	- 0.69	3.41
UK Index	141.88	143.11†	- 0.34	3.44
UK Smaller Cos	112.79	120.63	+ 0.07	1.12
Income Funds				
Preference Share	24.02	25.69	- 0.03	9.11
High Income	31.35	33.53†	- 0.05	5.43
UK Equity Income	125.37	134.09	- 0.53	3.71
Global Bond	27.77	28.78†	- 0.16	5.39
International Funds				
Emerging Markets	41.67	44.57	- 0.19	. .
Global Inc & Gth	125.14	133.17	- 0.53	2.32
Global & Intl Pen	96.09	102.77	- 0.53	. .
Global Utilities	119.40	127.68	- 0.54	1.43
Overseas Funds				
American	140.39	149.99	- 0.53	1.24
European	185.41	197.21†	+ 0.32	1.43

TWA flyers get a leg up

TWA has upstaged its transatlantic competitors by introducing the roomiest-yet business class. The American carrier, which flies daily between Gatwick and St Louis, has increased its business-class legroom to either 57in or 62in, depending on whether you travel in the Boeing 747 or Boeing 767. Most other transatlantic airlines, with the exception of Air Canada and Continental, provide only 40in of legroom in business class. Details: 0171-439 0707.

BARGAIN of the WEEK

YOU can take a companion free of charge to New York if you fly there and back by April 13. The two-for-one deal is available from American Airlines and United. It covers full fare, economy, business and first-class tickets and means a saving of between £850 and £4,026. Details: 0181-572 5555 American and 0181-990 9900 United.

☐ Holders of the Flyers Cashback Card save 5 per cent on scheduled flights. Both full and promotional fare tickets qualify for the discount. The card, which normally costs £30, is offered free of charge to *Times* readers for a limited period. Details: 0171-384 1877.

FARE DEALS

☐ For little more than the cost of a transatlantic business-class ticket, you can circle the world with Singapore Airlines and Air New Zealand. Manchester-based The Travel Bug (0161 740 8998) charges £2,439 for business-class flights covering Singapore, Australasia, the Pacific and Los Angeles.

☐ Telephone check-in is now available to full-fare Air UK passengers on 0345 959506 when departing a main UK airport, among them Gatwick, Stansted, Edinburgh, Glasgow and Aberdeen. And Alitalia business-class passengers can use a telephone check-in when flying to Italy. Provided you have only hand baggage, a call to 0181-745 8454 will ensure that your boarding pass will be ready..

☐ British Airways has lowered its London-Brussels-return business-class fare by more than 20 per cent, from £310 to £245.

☐ Carib Express, a new airline backed by British Airways, has devised a regional air pass. Valid for flights between Barbados, St Vincent, St Lucia, Grenada and Dominica, it can be booked in multiples of two, four, six or eight flights. A two-flight pass costs £62, eight flights £245. Details: 0181-897 4000.

Curbs on Greek cowboys

Harvey Elliott on new moves to halt the flood of unlicensed holiday lets threatening Greece's smaller islands

Greek tourism officials are trying to halt the spread of thousands of unlicensed self-catering cottages and apartments which, they say, are threatening to ruin many small islands.

After repeated complaints from British tour operators, the Greek Government has begun for the first time to inspect and license more than one million holiday lettings being provided to tour operators by Greek families keen to earn extra cash.

Panos Argyros, UK director of the National Tourist Organisation of Greece, says there are 7,500 hotels containing 470,000 beds in Greece, but well over a million self-catering establishments.

"People heard how much in demand these places were and, without anyone really noticing at first, built villas or apartments and then let them to foreign tour operators. They were especially anxious to let them to the British who want simplicity and a very low price. Many are not interested in the history and culture which is all around them and want only to lie on a beach and spend as little as possible."

Many tour operators snapped up the properties, often in small isolated villages, without even bothering to inspect them, then offered them at the last moment under "allocation on arrival". At least 25 per cent of all Greece's accommodation was let in this way last year, the authorities now believe.

"Most had been built in complete contravention of any planning laws," says Mr Argyros. "We have so far inspected about 75 per cent and should have visited them all by the summer peak."

Anyone found to be letting a sub-standard property is unlikely to be fined or forced to pull it down, however. "You will never stop the Greeks from welcoming people to their homes or from trying to earn extra money," says Mr Argyros. "We will seek a compromise and also reward those who comply by giving them a plaque showing that they have been officially recognised. From next year we plan to allow only those lettings with such a sign to have their details published."

Last year 2.45 million of Greece's 10.5 million visitors were British. Although it is well behind Spain as a favourite holiday destination for the British, many Greeks now believe that by improving the country's image, they could quickly expand to become the second most popular "playground" of Europe.

Noel Josephides, managing director of Sunvil Holidays which specialises in Greece, says: "We have been telling the Greek Government for years that they are in danger of destroying the very attractions which tourists come to see.

"The cheap sun and sand demand was stimulated by tour operators who bought rooms and aircraft seats very cheaply at the last moment, then sold them on at prices below those in a brochure.

"The local population knew nothing about tourism and threw up buildings in unknown places with no infrastructure."

The Greek Government has also launched a determined attempt to persuade holiday-makers to take an interest in the culture of the islands, as well as in the sea and the sun.

An exhibition of 300 colour pictures by the Cypriot-born photographer Reno Wideson opened yesterday in the new Hellenic Centre in Paddington Street, London W1, where it will remain until May 10. The stunning photographs show the hidden Greece, the history and the culture of the islands which so few tourists ever see.

Mr Wideson shot the pictures during a three-month sabbatical from the BBC, where he had been head of film operations.



Reno Wideson's photograph of the Convent of Evangelistria on the island of Skopelos

Nature work for over 50s

THE NATIONAL Trust is seeking fit and enthusiastic people aged over 50 to participate in one of its highly successful and popular working conservation holidays next month at Leith Hill, Surrey.

Participants will stay at the nearby Henman Basecamp and work at Leith Hill, which has magnificent views over the North and South Downs and a rhododendron wood.

Tasks during the week-long project (April 8-15) will include gardening work in the rhododendron wood in preparation for the main May to June flowering season, clearing footpaths and establishing new trees.

The Leith Hill project is one of twelve Stannah Challenge Projects specifically for volunteers aged 50 and above. It is one of 460 working holidays which the National Trust says are vital for conservation.

The projects offer older people the opportunity to become actively involved in conservation, working for an average eight hours a day in the company of like-minded people. The working holiday costs £40 for a week or £15 for a two-day short break, and the costs cover food which is cooked communally, and lodging in dormitories.

Participants on the week-long projects also receive a National Trust Volunteer pass, entitling them to free entry to trust properties for one year.

MARIANNE CURPHEY

● *National Trust Working Holidays (01225 790815)*

TRAVEL THE WORLD AGAIN IN WEEKEND ON SATURDAY

Doug Sager on spring ski prospects; **Julia Llewellyn Smith** on a Tuscan cookery holiday; **Jill Crawshaw** selects the pick of rural holidays; and how to occupy the children over Easter

Hot on the Antipodes

AIRLINE Network, the long-haul flight specialist, will tomorrow open a dedicated Australia and New Zealand centre which can be reached by a free telephone number (0500 727747), *Harvey Elliott writes*. The company has created the Australia Flight Centre, staffed 12 hours a day by 12 experts who can provide a detailed guide to holidays including flights, car hire and accommodation.

THE GROSVENOR House Art & Antiques Fair is being held between June 15 and 24 in the central London hotel's Great Room. Visitors can stay in the hotel at a cost of £173 a room a night for single or double occupancy, including admission to the fair, a copy of a 300-page handbook and tax.

THE NUMBER of holiday-makers making their own arrangements rather than relying on packaged tours is increasing sharply, according to the travel club Wexas. Though the number of people booking packages was static in February, those choosing "do-it-yourself" holidays increased by 30 per cent.

THE FOREIGN Office has finally relented and withdrawn its advice not to travel to The Gambia. In an attempt to revive British tourist traffic, the Gambia Experience is now offering two weeks for the price of one in a four-star hotel. A one-week holiday costs from £398, with the second week free.

OLDHAM is vying to become a tourist trap. A new leaflet outlines its claim to fame as the town where the hat that Harrison Ford wore as Indiana Jones was made, where William Wrigley of spearmint gum fame was born and where the first Yates Wine Lodge opened in 1884.

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How your council rates in efficiency league

BY IAN MURRAY, COMMUNITY CORRESPONDENT

THE first league tables of local authority performance are published today by the Audit Commission, giving voters the chance to assess how well their councils perform in comparison with others.

The result reveals huge variations in performance. Standards and spending priorities differ enormously, even between councils with the same political control. Although the commission report says that local government as a whole provides many services well at a reasonable cost, not one council can boast that it has all-round standards of excellence.

Some councils take a week to relet council homes, others take more than 15 weeks. Some have rent arrears of less than 2 per cent, while others have ten times as many. Some provide school places for more than 80 per cent of their under-fives.

"The idea of the all-competent, all-conquering council that runs everything efficiently is tosh," Andrew Foster, controller of the commission, says. "There is a substantial variation and if some councils are breathtakingly bad, we don't have many that are even competent all-round."

The figures are already out of date because they relate to the year 1993-94. Given that local authorities had to make widespread cuts this year to stay inside their capping limits, and have done so for the year ahead, it is possible that standards will fall next year.

While many councils provided good services cheaply, most end up in the bottom half of the table in at least some categories. This means that for the poor, disabled or handicapped, care is a lottery decided by where they live.

If a child in Sunderland needs a report drawn up on its special educational needs, it has no chance of receiving this within six months. If the child moved a mile or two down the road into Durham, there would be an 80 per cent chance that the report would be completed within that time.

Lincolnshire is not a place where the elderly and infirm can expect much council care. The county supports the lowest percentage of old people in homes and provides the second lowest level of home helps. It also is in the bottom ten authorities for providing help to allow those with physical disabilities to live at home.

Generally counties and districts in the South East perform badly in the social service categories, while Welsh counties are near the top of the league, helped by the fact that they tend to receive higher grants. No fair comparisons can be made between inner-city boroughs and country districts, so the commission has accompanied the tables with a warning that factors such as social deprivation, density and age of the population need to be taken into consideration.

Nevertheless Hackney and Lambeth, two of London's most notorious boroughs, are shown to be grossly inefficient in several areas. Hackney took 37.4 weeks to relet its empty housing stock, compared with a London average of nine weeks. The borough has already announced that it is taking action to remedy the situation.

Lambeth, one of the few authorities to have a positive discrimination employment policy for the physically handicapped, was the only borough in the country unable to say how many physically handicapped people live in its borders.

Westminster, the most successful Tory council in London at the last election, is in the bottom ten in eight of the 19 categories and is middle-ranked in a further six. It spends less per child on secondary education than any other authority in England, and GCSE and A-level result tables have already shown it is tenth from bottom of all English education authorities.

Liverpool, which was a synonym for council incompetence in the 1980s, is showing signs that it is turning the corner, with the highest proportion of under-fives in school places and several other indicators near the top.

The knowledge that the tables were going to be produced appears already to have encouraged some councils to change bad practice. In the past year North Tyneside, which performs significantly worse than South Tyneside, has doubled the number of housing benefit cases it processes promptly and halved the number of unlet homes. Ealing, which charged the most expensive council rents in the country, switched from Tory to Labour control last May and has frozen rent levels.

Before collecting the statistics the commission carried out opinion polls to discover what the public wanted to know about its local authorities. Councils were required to assemble this information covering 1993-94 and to publish it locally.

The commission has since processed the statistics collected by the councils and selected 19 representative indicators. These do not include rubbish collection, one of the few services that all councils apparently do well.

The tables will be released annually and will include year-on-year comparisons, highlighting changes in performance.

Leading article, page 19

ANDREW HASSON



The greenest council in England is Adur District, West Sussex, the first to recycle more than 25 per cent of its household waste. Residents have to sort their rubbish

EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES

KEY

- A % of 3 and 4-year-olds with a school place
- B expenditure on primary school pupils (£ per pupil)
- C expenditure on secondary school pupils (£ per pupil)
- D % special needs reports issued within 6 months
- E % elderly helped to live at home
- F % elderly in residential care
- G % adults under 65 recognised as physically disabled
- H % physically disabled people given help to live at home
- I nights off for carers (per 1000 adults pa)
- J Total expenditure by authority (per head of pop)

LONDON BOROUGHS

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
INNER LONDON										
City of London		3444			32	4.94	2.52	6.67	32	
Camden	52	2005	2214	48	20	3.00	2.09	11.00	45	1088
Greenwich	80	1877	2336	14	15	2.96	2.54	4.95	57	984
Hackney	60	1919	2587	36	24	4.40	4.60	5.84	17	1382
Ham & Fulham	57	2390	3280	6	20	4.02	6.25	3.45	61	1094
Islington	66	2509	2948	44	27	5.00	5.28	6.00	33	1231
Ken & Chelsea	40	2569	4065	8	12	2.60	2.99	6.80	21	932
Lambeth	45	2639	3415	4	13	2.68			32	1230
Lewisham	66	2115	2529	12	14	3.20	2.37	5.61	79	948
Southwark	71	1547	2315	10	15	3.10	1.95	7.70	45	1108
Tower Hamlets	85	2486	2898	37	24	4.70	4.03	5.30	37	1413
Wandsworth	73	2018	3420	4	16	2.90	2.83	4.30	20	915
Westminster	42	2298	1535	63	14	2.65	7.85	2.30	36	1090
OUTER LONDON										
Barking & Dag	73	1749	2235	22	22	3.40	2.39	8.10	65	770
Barnet	60	1920	2526	40	9	2.40	0.92	6.80	23	685
Bexley	39	1470	2061	37	12	2.00	1.95	3.90	63	671
Brent	85	1484	1638	23	14	1.55	2.20	18.64	120	1049
Bromley	28	1541	2066	24	10	1.30	0.98	9.90	50	606
Croydon	55	1743	2294	27	11	2.89	2.17	3.00	61	710
Ealing	68	1850	2562	3	16	3.70	4.62	5.00	20	996
Enfield	69	*1509	*1756	2	5	1.76	1.00	5.55	74	776
Haringey	95	2041	3657	10	16	2.46	2.51	5.25	63	1091
Harrow	65	1828	2467	1	10	1.45	2.46	8.25	84	888
Havering	59	1168	1787	0	13	2.10	1.65	4.00	47	627
Hillingdon	43	1703	2732	7	9	2.42	1.55	5.23	58	677
Hounslow	71	1899	2296	20	8	2.19	2.50	2.85	19	821
Kingston-u-T	61	1811	2307	27	11	2.10	1.17	5.80	50	655
Merton	90	1858	2401	16	17	1.80	1.48	8.90	72	676
Newham	55	1662	2427	3	22	4.40	3.57	2.30	48	1126
Redbridge	39	1577	2249	34	8	2.50	0.72	4.70	24	725
Richmond-u-T	47	1763	2263	27	10	2.30	3.62	2.10	52	576
Sutton	41	1570	2151	6	11	1.40	4.90	1.20	82	656
Waltham Forest	58	1758	2517	24	18	2.20	9.48	1.42	81	919

ENGLISH COUNTIES

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
Avon	44	1586	2258	11	10	2.00	1.05	10.39	44	582
Bedfordshire	50	1616	2115	25	11	2.00	1.18	7.00	81	646
Berkshire	32	1551	2122	16	9	2.40	1.09	6.10	53	607
Buckinghamshire	47	1581	1979	89	12	2.80	2.17	4.30	72	631
Cambridgeshire	43	1465	2092	7	7	1.40	0.35	15.00	95	561
Cheshire	54	1459	1980	25	9	1.48	2.89	2.35	23	604
Cleveland	64	1425	2116	32	17	3.90	2.60	5.40	16	724
Cornwall	46	1527	2056	3	6	2.13	2.06	4.47	166	596
Cumbria	43	1647	2182	36	6	2.70	2.21	2.91	149	629
Derbyshire	78	1483	2145	17	24	4.13	9.61	4.10	90	585
Devon	28	1479	2066	55	7	1.81	1.79	7.00	27	566
Dorset	37	1455	1963	33	5	1.40	1.61	6.25	78	536
Durham	79	1874	1996	72	9	2.67	3.57	1.71	67	600
East Sussex	39	1609	2221	8	6	2.00	1.97	4.10	38	567
Essex	35	1578	2387	29	9	2.70	1.22	7.40	60	602
Gloucestershire	31	1536	1996	45	7	1.70	1.27	2.10	55	563
Hampshire	45	1553	2152	12	7	2.60	1.44	2.50	73	539
Hereford & Worcs	24	1606	2015	3	8	1.89	6.50	1.27	12	536
Hertfordshire	50	1609	2172	61	8	1.97	1.03	5.99	56	579
Humberside	60	1665	2136	14	18	2.87	3.31	5.11	46	650
Isle of Wight	59	1590	1959	50	*12	*0.83	0.83	14.70	11	612
Kent	36	1396	2121	15	5	2.14	1.00	5.60	111	625
Lancashire	53	1635	2278	14	14	2.80	3.91	3.90	167	639
Leicestershire	55	1608	2180	-	11	3.24	1.75	5.45	70	606
Lincolnshire	39	1468	2194	36	5	0.80	2.49	2.90	127	591
Norfolk	29	1612	2331	1	9	2.54	1.24	7.19	57	559
Northamptonshire	64	1507	2023	48	8	3.81	0.36	24.34	77	607
Northumberland	89	1509	1850	79	15	1.90	3.11	6.00	61	597
North Yorkshire	70	1534	2089	34	7	1.98	1.61	6.85	105	543
Nottinghamshire	58	1710	2312	10	12	2.20	0.78	3.90	93	619
Oxfordshire	24	1790	2073	22	7	3.30	0.72	7.90	110	545
Shropshire	37	1577	2996	15	7	2.20	1.32	4.74	69	583
Somerset	35	1578	2068	50	10	2.10	2.08	5.10	57	589
Staffordshire	71	1542	2022	20	20	3.27	1.45	9.74	129	559
Suffolk	51	1800	2147	27	7	1.90	0.78	6.10	96	568
Surrey	45	1722	2247	55	3	1.90	0.36	11.00	16	543
Warwickshire	65	1582	2155	26	11	1.80	5.50	1.50	11	586
West Sussex	22	1635	2254	14	9	1.90	0.91	13.40	65	537
Wiltshire	23	1496	1991	30	8	3.47	1.27	7.02	69	558

METROPOLITAN AUTHORITIES

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
GREATER MANCHESTER										
Bolton	88	1529	2188	9	11	3.50	4.13	1.40	69	725
Bury	60	1379	1980	16	9	2.90	1.22	6.00	41	616
Manchester	66	1468	2382	35	19	2.95	3.64	2.15	44	978
Oldham	84	1690	2410	50	15	2.71	1.98	4.30	124	781
Rochdale	65	1346	1984	0	15	2.00	0.48	21.20	142	779
Salford	88	1449	2142	10	19	2.57	5.58	2.75	99	792
Stockport	59	1413	2182	16	8	1.20	0.50	1.90	39	645
Tameside	73	1514	2045	16	19	2.73	3.27	3.42	121	705
Trafford	83	1383	2260	11	13	2.23	3.08	3.64	53	651
Wigan	75	1385	2100	21	15	3.20	4.76	2.30	52	649
MERSEYSIDE										
Knowsley	81	1359	2150	8	11	3.31	4.77	1.12	17	920
Liverpool	97	1400	2297	95	15	3.40	5.34	2.40	23	934
St Helens	89	1525	2256	21	16	3.20	4.32	1.70	57	729
Sefton	79	1348	2094	37	9	1.97	3.54	2.94	120	675
Wirral	56	1530	2220	13	14	3.00	1.75	5.00	18	744

WELSH COUNTIES

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
Clwyd	92	1397	2243	30	14	5.70	4.86	1.23	24	634
Dyfed	85	1880	2302	67	14	4.32	4.48	2.70	14	717
Gwent	77	1881	2262	17	20	2.44	7.31	3.40	22	661
Gwynedd	61	1743	2460	88	25	2.00	1.27	28.00	16	690
Mid Glamorgan	74	1877	2562	48	24	3.50	9.07	2.90	88	712
Powys	71	1800	2173	80	8	3.31	2.63	4.14	30	767
South Glamorgan	81	1649	1817	45	14	1.52	0.78	26.10	13	658
West Glamorgan	89	1554	2406	4	7	3.95	1.08	4.75	99	660

HOUSING, BENEFITS, RECYCLING, PLANNING AND FINANCE

KEY

- K Average time taken to relet dwellings (weeks)
- L % tenants over 13 weeks in arrears
- M Average weekly rent per dwelling (£)
- N % housing benefit claims processed in 14 days
- O % household waste recycled
- P % planning applications decided in 8 weeks
- Q Cost of collecting council tax per dwelling (£)
- R % budgeted council tax yield collected
- S Total expenditure by authority (£ per head of pop)

LONDON BOROUGHS

	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S
INNER LONDON									
City of London	3	5.9	47.1	98				115	
Camden	10	22.8	53.23	95	6.8	42	23	91	1088
Greenwich	9.7	20.4	42.12	56	3.9	78	34	101	984
Hackney	37.4	19.8	42.73	64	0.5	64	26	78	1382
Ham & Fulham	13.4	29	48.46	45	4.5	58	43	95	1094
Islington	12.8	15.2	46.65	36	2.9	82	28	91	1231
Kensington & Chelsea	8	13.8	57.28	98	5.2	59	32	102	932
Lambeth	15	34.4	41.27	-	3.2	65	27	61	1230
Lewisham	8.6	16	41.46	61	4.7	51	22	92	948
Southwark	3.4	32.8	44.43	96	3.4	80	28	99	1108
Tower Hamlets	13.8	7.1	35.59	75	1.8	51	63	91	1413
Wandsworth	8.4	10.5	56.87	79	2.6	66	19	92	915
Westminster	6.3	10	56.06	76	6.8	67	25	91	1090
OUTER LONDON									
Barking & Dagenham	7	4.8	30.58	83	1.3	82	6	93	770
Barnet	5	2	50.5	90	4	85	18	102	685
Bexley	6.8	2.1	42.18	71	9.6	59	17	99	671
Brent	12.2	38	32.73	96	2	67	40	92	1049
Bromley				85	14.4	82	14	102	606
Croydon	7.4	4.5	53.17	79	13	38	19	100	710
Ealing	8.6	28.9	68.78	82	6.2	64	27	97	886
Enfield	12.9	8	45.7	33	5	74	11	89	776
Haringey	6.4	27.1	55.62	66	5	63	20	80	1091
Harrow	5.6	3.3	57	84	6.5	79	17	99	888
Havering	3.9	2	37.14	80	10	67	18	97	627
Hillingdon	4.3	2.9	58.44	79	6.5	71	18	97	677
Hounslow	12.5	10.2	38.45	59	6.5	76	23	96	821
Kingston-upon-T	6.5	2	59.63	95	7.8	73	17	99	855
Merton	8.1	5.7	49.31	95	8.7	59	38	91	676
Newham	10	14.3	34.91	80	1.4	68	36	86	1126
Redbridge	7.1	14.4	61.3	95	3.7	89	42	103	725
Richmond-upon-T	8.4	5.4	48.24	43	13.9	54	16	104	576
Sutton	5.3	4	42.27	58	19.3	71	11	97	658
Waltham Forest	4.1	12.6	39.66	50	6.4	67	20	91	919

METROPOLITAN AUTHORITIES

	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S
GREATER MANCHESTER									
Bolton	4.8	2.2	27.36	71	3.6	71	21	97	725
Bury	7.4	6.4	26.59	78	6	67	16	106	616
Manchester	4.4	15.1	37.44	38	2.8	42	9	79	976
Oldham	4.2	1.5	28.05	90	2.8	68	18	92	781
Rochdale	6.7	4.3	31.23	77	2.4	78	16	95	779
Salford	13.8	3.4	30.73	52	2.6	72	20	92	792
Stockport	4.9	3.9	26.76	74	6.5	61	18	107	645
Tameside	7	4.9	30.51	93	0.8	62	13	102	705
Trafford	9.9	3.5	29.2	67	3	79	10	94	651
Wigan	3.3	1.6	25.47	80	1.4	69	18	95	649
MERSEYSIDE									
Knowsley	1.9	5.1	33.42	96	0.7	56	40	92	920
Liverpool	8.2	19	30.44	96	0.9	61	12	80	934
St Helens	7.9	5.2	31.43	92	2.8	63	16	100	729
Sefton	7.5	7.7	31.52	100	3.6	63	17	100	675
Wirral	4.3	6	31.53	53	4.8	62	12	95	744
SOUTH YORKSHIRE									
Barnsley	5.3	0.5	22.15	93	2.3	85	8	94	629
Doncaster	7.1	1.5	24.05	61	2.5	91	13	102	691
Rotherham	6	2.5	20.66	91	2.5	78	17	98	691
Sheffield	7.7	7.2	26.64	92	4.7	68	14	94	696
TYNE AND WEAR									
Gateshead	3.7	4.4	28.53	64	2.2	67	14	101	761
Newcastle upon Tyne	6	9.5	30.86	90	1.9	74	20	96	780
North Tyneside	7	8.2	23.79	21	2.9	38	19	94	723
South Tyneside	3.3	4	22.57	82	3.1	83	18	108	750
Sunderland	2.3	3.9	23.78	83	1.5	61	8	99	726
WEST MIDLANDS									
Birmingham	5.6	4.7	33.27	97	4.4	77	13	97	879
Coventry	6.2	7.8	31.06	*71	8	50	16	99	778
Dudley	9	2.3	31.05	80	4.4	72	9	100	616
Sandwell	5	4.7	33.59	80	1.4	77	24	94	793
Solihull	2.6	3.5	34.02	89	3.7	88	16	101	606
Walsall	10	7	27.38	56	2.7	53	16	96	717
Wolverhampton	8.8	7.2	30.27	87	2.6	75	11	96	842
WEST YORKSHIRE									
Bradford	7	5.8	29.14	87	2	49	17	97	826
Calderdale	1.3	7.4	27.77	76	1.8	58	9	89	721
Kirklees	8	10.1	30.78	94	2.6	74	12	94	725
Leeds	3.6	4.3	24.09	*83	4.9	61	13	97	661
Wakefield	3.6	0.9	23.4	83	1.9	68	10	99	641

ENGLISH DISTRICT COUNCILS

	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S
NORTH									
CHESHIRE									
Chester	3.7	0.9	25.91	97	6	66	15	101	95
Congleton	4.6	0.4	25.44	82	5.2	76	13	103	67
Crewe & Nantwich	5.2	3	27.57	97	2.6	63	13	100	98
Ellesmere Pt & Neston	6.2	7	19.65	96	6.5	76	17	102	98
Halton	4.1	9.3	25.82	92	1.4	94	9	99	102
Macclesfield	3.8	2.5	26.66	92	4.1	61	13	101	76
Vale Royal	2.5	4.5	27.54	26	5	38	11	94	81
Warrington	4.4	1.4	25.26	90	3.6	74	16	97	87
CLEVELAND									
Hartlepool	4	7.4	31.34	66	2.3	66	21	102	140
Langbaurgh	4	2.3	31.76	79	0.7	92	12	94	113
Middlesbrough	3	25.4	35.22	61	1.7	87	17	90	143
CUMBRIA									
Allerdale	5.5	2.9	28.07	78	3.3	74	10	100	91
Barrow-in-Furness	3.2	2.6	34.4	72	1.2	84	12	95	120
Carlisle	6	4.7	28.72	91	3.8	68	13	99	112
Copeland	6	3.8	32.41	70	2.4	92	18	97	103
Eden	5.4	2.4	33.07	88	7.8	66	22	98	99
South Lakeland	2	1	31.31	83	6.4	88	12	100	87
DURHAM									
Chester-le-Street	6	3	27.7	48	1.3	87	25	101	83
Darlington	5.7	6.6	27.1	67	4.6	73	13	102	116
Derwentside	2.3	2.4	32.51	97	0.4	76	16	90	128
Durham City	8.4	0.5	27.61	76	5.2	55	13	98	93
Easington	7	3.4	29.8	46	0.1	82	10	94	95
Sedgefield	3	2.1	27.37	85	0.7	82	13	97	91
Teesdale	5.7	0.9	24.46	68	1.2	56	21	80	97
Wear Valley	2.2	5	30.81	63	0	64	11	95	123
HUMBERSIDE									
Beverley	0.5	3.4	25.33	94	3.1	90	13	104	69
Boothferry	6	1	28.05	89	3.9	86	27	103	100
Cleethorpes	4.9	1.2	26.79	41	3.1	78	9	96	109
Glanford	1.5	2.2	23.91	91	2.6	87	7	96	97
Great Grimsby	4.4	1.2	26.09	73	3.3	92	10	102	128
Holderness	1.1	1.9	26.15	85	2.1	89	12	96	91
Kingston-upon-Hull	6.5	3.1	26.75	93	4.4	84	14	96	136
East Yorkshire	4.7	1.4	26.15	82	3.2	89	12	97	98
Scunthorpe	3.8	1.4	26.72	62	4.2	83	16	94	107
LANCASHIRE									
Blackburn	4.5	1.2	35.29	90	0.8	72	17	95	155
Blackpool	4.5	6	28.99	94	0	87	27	101	128
Burnley	4	5.3	32.38	74	2.3	68	13	93	131
Chorley	5	2.8	25.14	91	5	70	14	97	82
Fylde	5.4	1.9	28.45	97	2.8	75	12	102	80
Hyndburn	5.4	6	33.91	83	2	75	9	97	118
Lancaster	1.2	2.6	28.67	44	6	78	12	97	104
Pendle	2.8	4.4	31.2	70	4	68	17	100	119
Preston	7.6	4.5	31.96	92	3	76	25	92	143
Ribble Valley	2.6	1.2	25.8	73	-	69	15	85	76
Rossendale	4.7	2	29.73	71	2	82	22	103	110
South Ribble				93	3.2	76	11	95	74
West Lancashire	4.8	8.3	27.61	94	4.5	76	17	96	85
Wyre	3.2	3.9	26.72	98	3	81	15	101	84
NORTHUMBERLAND									
Alnwick	3	1	27.27	100	0	90	12	98	101
Berwick-upon-Tweed	0.5	1.2	21.38	99	2	78	18	97	93
Blyth Valley	2.6	1.5	25.1	96	1.5	81	12	98	97
Castle Morpeth	6.4	1.1	26.45	99	12.7	90	21	96	90
Tynedale	4.9	1.3	27.91	96	3	82	14	98	88
Wansbeck	5	5.8	25.34	96	0.7	71	14	93	111
NORTH YORKSHIRE									
Craven	1.3	0.7	31.98	87	-	76	17	97	91
Hambleton				84	*5.9	73	12	95	80
Harrogate	3.7	1.3	32.11	73	7	76	16	109	106
Richmondshire	4.8	2.9	35.03	71	5.3	82	16	98	84
Ryedale					12	60	15	96	73
Scarborough	4.4	4.5	29.75	48	8.3	87	11	97	105
Selby	2.2	4	28.44	49	2	83	9	94	86
York	2.2	4.5	30.78	53	6.8	83	12	99	111

MIDLANDS

	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S
DERBYSHIRE									
Amber Valley	2.4	1.5	24.66	82	2.9	80	17	97	77
Bolsover	3.2	2	23.57	69	1.3	68	17	95	76
Chesterfield	3	4	24.2	59	7.9	78	13	97	88
Derby	1.9	2.2	26.96	87	2.4	68	19	96	108
Erewash	3.4	1.3	25.3	86	1.6	67	10	97	79
High Peak	7.2	1.5	26.96	94	3	74	12	94	85
North East Derbyshire	5.1	3.3	23.98	90	0.2	73	17	100	88
South Derbyshire	4.6	*3.0	27.29	97	1.1	90	16	98	78
Derbyshire Dales	1.8	1.9	26.82	99	5.5	81	14	99	90
LEICESTERSHIRE									
Blaby	2.1	1.7	22.93	94	2.8	79	16	96	65
Charnwood	14.8	3.9	27.43	88	4.1	82	16	85	78
Harborough	6.6	5.1	34.09	43	3.2	77	13	95	74
Hinckley & Bosworth	4	2.8	29.54	79	3.5	91	15	96	54
Leicester	6.5	8	33.85	65	3	65	17	87	191
Melton	1.8	1.4	25.57	46	4.9	90	17	85	82
NW Leicestershire	5.2	2.6	26.61	88	2.9	96	19	98	79
Oadby & Wigston	3.6	8.7	24.79	90	5.3	84	15	92	81
Rutland	3	3.6	36.51	67	5.1	80	13	100	86
LINCOLNSHIRE									
Boston	1.4	2.2	28.82	80	1	81	14	99	106
East Lindsey	1.2	1.7	30.22	92	2	86	18	101	104
Lincoln	5.7	7.9	27.5	97	11.6	71	18	95	106
North Kesteven	4.3	0.4	26.85	89	3



FILM EXTRA page 34
One hundred years ago today, this man began British cinema. Why aren't we celebrating?

ARTS

OPERA page 35
Shostakovich's satirical and tuneful musical, Cheryomushki, enjoys another London outing



CINEMA: **Geoff Brown** looks for a reason for Sean Connery's involvement in *Just Cause*, and decides it must be golf

Sean of any credibility

Just Cause
Warner West End, 15, 102 mins
Sean Connery gets lost in the Everglades

Fiorile
MGM Tottenham Court Road, 12, 118 mins
Frugrant epic from the Taviani brothers

Hoop Dreams
MGM Shaftesbury Ave, 15, 170 mins
Marvellously absorbing documentary

Crooklyn
MGM Trocadero, 12, 114 mins
Spike Lee's rowdy return to his own childhood

Having Sean Connery in your film is supposed to be an asset. He lends it strength, pawky humour, and some box-office clout. **Just Cause**, however, is so ill-conceived that the asset is swiftly stripped. As soon as we glimpse our man on the podium at Harvard, reasoning against capital punishment in his neat white beard, grey jacket and half-moon specs, something appears wrong. We expect Connery in the jungle, the desert or the big city's streets, not academia.

Since Connery serves as the film's executive producer, he can scarcely have walked into the script blind. In its early stages, you can see what might have attracted him — apart, perhaps, from the numerous golf courses in Florida, where the bulk of Arne Glimcher's film was shot. The Harvard law professor comes to the Everglades to investigate the case of a convict awaiting the electric chair for a young girl's nasty murder.

"Every now and then you've got to get a little bloody," Connery's wife, Kate Capshaw, urges him. So it turns out. As the East Coast liberal clashes with small-town minds, off comes the tie, out comes the sun hat. Instead of law books, he wrestles with troublesome individuals like Laurence Fishburne, a local detective in no mood to see an old case re-opened, Blair Underwood, the prisoner who confessed to the crime after extreme coercion, and Ed Harris, a Death Row neighbour fond of biblical quotes, lurid cell murals, and screaming his shaved head off.

"You've got the trials of Job ahead of you, mister," Harris advises our hero. Connery's agony, however, pales beside ours as we watch a passable investigative thriller spiral into an absurd, ineffectual melodrama. Critics have been asked to keep tight-lipped over the plot twists, "out of consideration for your fellow viewers". My pleasure, Warner Bros, although the film-makers show scant consideration themselves by wasting Connery on an unsuitable role, and selling us cheap, stale goods.

The Taviani brothers, Paolo and Vittorio, tread a special path in Italian cinema. At best, they spin stories, fables almost, rich in moral and political lessons. Leftist in politics, they take a despairing view of industry and the march of greed, but keep enough love in their hearts to bestow on their flawed fellow men.

Fiorile, completed in 1993, never scales the heights reached in the early 1980s in *The Night of San Lorenzo* and *Kaos*. But a mildly disappointing Taviani film is better than a good one by most other directors; and this epic, century-hopping account of a blighted family beguiles like no other film this week.

Two youngsters travel from Paris with their parents for a first visit to their grandfather in Tuscany. Their surname is Benedetti — "the blessed ones" — although the locals prefer Maledetti, "the cursed". As the father starts explaining why, the camera drifts off the road to discover Napoleon's advancing soldiers. One camera movement links the present and past, and the story echoes down the generations.

A peasant girl, Elisabetta Benedetti, falls for Jean, a French lieutenant in charge of the army coffers. When her greedy brother steals its gold coins, Jean is shot for the crime. The gold multiplies: when we next meet the Benedettis, in 1903, they feast in their villa like Medicis. But wealth carries a price. By 1944, and the Partisan struggle, the family is still dogged by bad consciences, thwarted love and violent deaths.

The stories' threads may be complex, but the presentation is always lucid. Actors Galatea Ranzi, Claudio Bigagli and Michael Vartan appear in multiple roles to forge connections between the generations. Nor are the contemporary characters left out of the family pattern. The young daughter places a flower behind her ear in honour of Fiorile — Jean's name for her peasant lover, after the revolutionary calendar name for May. And the last scenes — when the children encounter their hermit grandfather and a dummy of Jean, stored in the farmhouse attic — carry the greatest emotional charge of all.

Spectacular visual displays, though, are absent. The beauties of Tuscany are enough for the Tavianis; this sombre story of humanity versus greed needs no fireworks to point its moral. Balm indeed after *Just Cause*.

Since my interest in sport hovers around zero, prospects for happiness might be thought limited during a three-hour American documentary about basketball. But **Hoop Dreams** is not your conventional documentary. The style does nothing to break the mould: film-makers Steve James, Fred Marx and Peter Gilbert opt for the fly on the wall's viewpoint, with straight-to-camera interviews interspersed. It is the substance that matters: a voyage through American life as experienced by two inner-city kids ignited by the dream of escaping the ghetto and playing basketball professionally.

The cameras stayed close to the boys and their families for more than four years, and we share the intimate experience. Both Arthur Agee and William Gates begin at 14 with partial basketball scholarships to a private Chicago school. Then life plays its tricks: income crises, torn ligaments, family break-ups, poor grades, bullying coaches who squeeze the fun from the game, pressure from predatory university scouts anxious to scoop up the top talent. Expectations are not fulfilled; at 18, both boys have lost their starry eyes, although the dream still lives inside one of them.

Hoop Dreams has the crackle and density of that elusive beast, the Great American Novel. Tensions of inner-city life are explored without those easy stereotypes of drugs and violence. Colourful characters crowd the scenes, and you take them to your heart: William, the quiet one with a bad knee, a rich sponsor, and the dark shadow of an elder brother who frittered away his own chances; Arthur, the frisky underdog, so aimless in his school work that he writes an essay on a random topic, the life cycle of the butterfly. No recent fiction film has captured America's heartbeat so well.

Certainly not **Crooklyn**, Spike Lee's first film since the over-ambitious *Malcolm X*. Lee escorts us back to the 1970s and a partly autobiographical Brooklyn childhood, where five kids make mother's life hell. For the first 45 minutes, the film drifts through rowdy domestic scenes, before stabilising round the sole daughter, 10-year-old Troy, and the mother (Alfre Woodard) who tries to keep order.

Place *Crooklyn* next to *Hoop Dreams*, however, and its family portrait seems both rose-tinted and melodramatic. Matters are not helped by Lee's decision to shoot Troy's visit to an aunt through the elongating anamorphic lens. The goal was a subjective impression of a world out of kilter; the result is eye strain.

More cinema on page 34



Sean Connery, playing a law professor investigating a murder, makes a stunning discovery — he should not have agreed to appear in *Just Cause*

"THE MADNESS OF KING GEORGE
is already the outstanding British film of the year and will almost certainly remain so.
RUSH TO SEE IT."
Barry Norman - Daily 9S

NIGEL HAWTHORNE
HELEN MIRREN
JAN HOLM

His Majesty was all powerful and all knowing.
But he wasn't quite all there.

OSCAR WINNER!
BEST ART DIRECTION
KEN ADAM
CAROLYN SCOTT

"Hawthorne's performance is colossal.
IT'S A FLAWLESS TRIUMPH"
Alexander Walker, EVENING STANDARD

"ONE OF THE TRIUMPHS OF THE YEAR!"
Kenneth Turan, THE LOS ANGELES TIMES

THE MADNESS OF KING GEORGE PG

NOW SHOWING
Lumière · MGM · MGM · ODEON
CHELSEA CINEMA · CAMBRIDGE Arts · OXFORD Phoenix

FROM TOMORROW

BELFAST MGM
BIRMINGHAM MGM
BIRMINGHAM Odeon
BIRMINGHAM Showcase
BOURNEMOUTH Odeon
BRIGHTON MGM (Marina)
BRIGHTON Odeon
BRISTOL Odeon
BRISTOL Showcase
BURY Warner
CARDIFF Odeon
CLYDEBANK UCI
COOLOCK UCI
CORK Cineplex
COVENTRY Odeon
COVENTRY Showcase
DERRY Strand
DUBLIN Savoy
EAST KILBRIDE UCI
EDINBURGH Cameo
EDINBURGH UCI
GATESHEAD UCI
GLASGOW Odeon
LEEDS Odeon
LEEDS Showcase
LIVERPOOL MGM
LIVERPOOL Odeon
LIVERPOOL Showcase
MANCHESTER Odeon
MANCHESTER Showcase
NEWCASTLE Odeon
NEWCASTLE Warner
NOTTINGHAM Odeon
NOTTINGHAM Showcase
PETERBOROUGH Showcase
POOLE UCI
SALFORD QUAYS MGM
SANTRY Omni
SHEFFIELD Odeon
SHEFFIELD UCI
SHEFFIELD Warner
SOUTHAMPTON MGM (Ocean Village)
STOCKPORT MGM
STOCKTON Showcase
SWANSEA UCI
TALLAGHT UCI
WARRINGTON UCI
YORKGATE (Belfast) Movie House

"HUGELY ENTERTAINING"
"A towering, Oscar - worthy performance"
"LIKE 'AMADEUS', GOOD ENTERTAINMENT, BEAUTIFULLY FILMED, SUMPTUOUS SETTINGS"
"AN EXTRAORDINARY PERFORMANCE"
"Provocative, intriguing and engrossing"
"BEAUTIFULLY ACTED" "OLDMAN IS EXCELLENT"
"This film exerts hypnotic power"
GARY OLDMAN

The genius behind the music.
The madness behind the man.
The untold love story of Ludwig Van Beethoven
IMMORTAL BELOVED.

NOW SHOWING Empire
ADVANCE BOOKINGS
UCI WHITELEY'S
MGM FULHAM RD.
AND AT IMPORTANT CINEMAS NATIONWIDE FROM TOMORROW

Free entrance to the theatre club

RADIO: **Peter Barnard** tunes into the varied tales of mystery and imagination told after lunch

Theatrical experiences are traditionally a night activity, involving long walks from lethal car parks in order to sit behind the tallest person in the auditorium and long for the interval drink that will last one sip before being elbowed on to the foyer carpet. Theatrical experiences are a drama, and never mind the drama on stage.

But radio has made drama an afternoon experience, or at least one which is widely available in the afternoon. Devoid of the aforementioned inconveniences, it takes the imagination on journeys deep into the past or sideways into the present.

> "Radio has made drama an afternoon experience"

There have been two good examples this week, one a serial and one a single play. The serial is **The Tree of Liberty** (Radio 4), a four-parter on Mondays set in revolutionary France. Its theme is the difficulties of policing a state in upheaval.

David Calder and Brian Hibbard play the leads in performances that do full justice to writing (by Nigel Baldwin) that uses the rhythm of good dialogue to carry the plot. The stories are essentially self-contained, which is why I risk recommending the serial halfway through, and they raise issues that have a relevance for the modern audience. Monday's made a tantalising tale out of a story about a doctor who is murdered: his son has an alibi, yet he confesses to the crime.

There was more direct relevance, at least in terms of modernity, in **Thirty Minute Theatre** on Tuesday (Radio 4). Here I must declare a pecuniary interest, for *A Home Truth* was written by my colleague Lynne Truss, who bought me a drink some three years ago and rushed off to feed a cat before I could buy her one. Or perhaps she had thought of a plot twist for *A Home Truth*. The story was about Belinda, a somewhat distracted writer retreating ever higher into her house to get away from the telephone. Her more worldly responsibilities are taken over by Linda, who becomes ever more a substitute Belinda, even to becoming pregnant by Belinda's husband and standing in for Belinda during pretentious literary discussions on *The Late Show* ("Does anyone watch this stuff?").

The plot partly echoes a tale by Hans Christian Andersen about a man whose shadow takes on a separate persona, so perhaps we are dealing here with two sides of the same person. But that sounds much too complicated for afternoon radio: try *The Late Show*.

LONDON

FIRST NIGHT FOR THE RSC Ian Judge's delightful production of *Twelfth Night*, from last year's Stratford, has Desmond Barrit as Malvolio and Emma Fielding as Viola. Irresistible. Over at the Pit, *After Easter*. Anne Devlin's powerful drama, concerns the strains of surviving as an Ulster Catholic woman. Stella Gonet is most moving as a returning exile. Michael Attenborough directs.
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Previews begin tonight for both plays, 7.15pm. *Twelfth Night* opens April 6 and *After Easter* on Apr 3.

ROYAL PHILHARMONIC Marek Janowski conducts his only London concert of the season tonight, with a programme of Schumann's overture, Manfred, Beethoven's Piano Concerto No 1 and Brahms's Symphony No 2. Radu Lupu is the soloist.
Festival Hall, South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 8800). Tonight, 7.30pm.

IF WE ARE WOMEN. Richard Olivier directs Joan Plowright and Diana Quick in a play by Canadian Joanna McClelland Glass: three generations of women come together after a death and deal with their past.
Greenwich, Crooms Hill, SE10 (0181-858 7755). Previews begin tonight, 7.45pm, opens April 6.

PREMIERES AT ST JOHN'S Ronald Corp conducts the New London Orchestra and Children's Choir for the first London performance of his own *Four Elizabethan Lyrics* and the world premiere of Elis Pehkonen's *An Orkney*

TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

Calendar: Tonight's programme also includes works by Martinů and Mathias.
St John's, Smith Square, SW1 (0171-222 1061). Tonight, 7.30pm.

ELSEWHERE

BRISTOL The Bernard Roberts trio launches a three-day **Simply Schubert** series this afternoon with a programme of Nocturne in E flat and Trio in B flat. Tomorrow evening's performance includes Sonata in A, Four Impromptus and Sonata in B flat, there is a masterclass on Sat.
St George's, Brandon Hill (0117 923 0359). Today, 1pm. £3 entrance. Fri, 7.30pm.

EDINBURGH Sir Charles Mackerras and pianist Piers Lane team up for tonight's **Scottish Chamber Orchestra** programme of favourite works from J C Bach, Mozart and Beethoven.
Queen's Hall, Clerk Street (0131-668 2019). Tonight, 7.45pm.

HIGH WYCOMBE Michael Frayn's popular **Noises Off**, the ingeniously engineered comedy that makes a farce from a farce, stars Millicent Martin, Michael Cashman and Patrick Cargill. A slickly accelerating piece of silliness.
Wycombe Swan, St Mary Street.

(0484 512000). Tonight-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm. Next stop, **Guildford** (01483 440000). Apr 10-15.

NORWICH: The Touring Partnership continues its revival of **Peace In Our Time**, Coward's rarely performed 1946 drama, imagining a Britain conquered by the Nazis. Wyn Jones directs.
Theatre Royal, Theatre Street (01603 630000). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm. Next week, **Bath** (01225 448844).

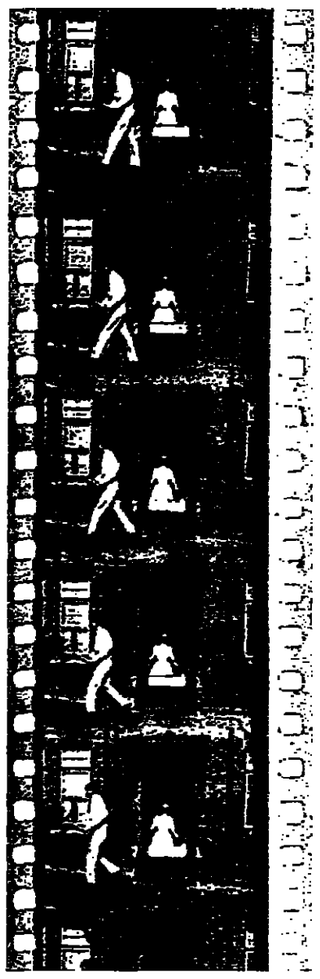
STRATFORD UPON AVON The Royal Shakespeare Theatre's new season opens with Adrian Noble's first production of **Romeo and Juliet**: Lucy Whybrow and Zubin Varla play the doomed youngsters.
Royal Shakespeare (01789 295623). Previews begin tonight, 7.30pm, opens April 5, 7pm. *The Taming of the Shrew* joins Romeo and Juliet in repertory from mid-April.

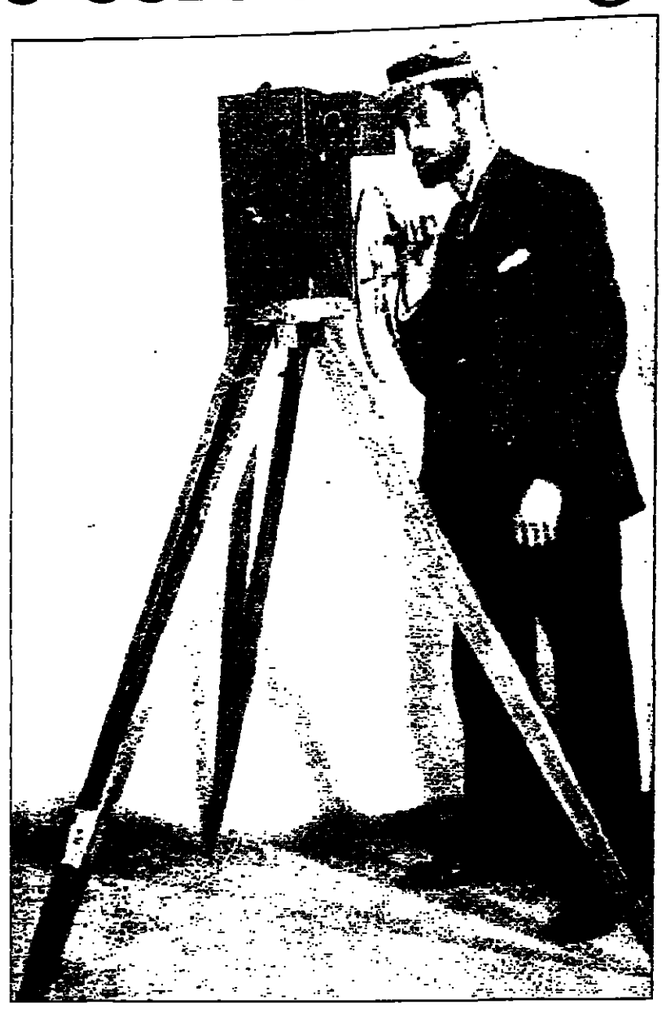
LONDON GALLERIES

Barbican, Impressionism in Britain (0171-638-4141). **British Museum**: Byzantine Treasures from British Collections (0171-636 1555) . . . **Courtauld**: Frank Dobson, Sculpture 1915-1954 (071-873 2526) . . . **Hayward**: Yves Klein (071-928 3144) . **National Gallery**: Spanish Still Life from Velásquez to Goya (0171-839 3321). **National Portrait Gallery**: Richard Avedon (0171-306 0055) . **Royal Academy**: Nicolas Poussin (0171-439 7438) . **Tate**: Willem de Kooning (0171-887 8000) . **V & A**: Ironwork and Glass Galleries (0171-938 8500) . **Whitechapel**: Julia Smith (0171-522 7888).

We should be celebrating

FILM: Exactly 100 years ago, British cinema was born. **David Robinson** asks why the anniversary has been ignored





Left: A fragment of the first Kinetoscope film made in Britain, shot by Robert William Paul and Birt Acres at Acres's home on March 29, 1895 — the day before they filmed the Boat Race. Right: Paul with his camera

One hundred years ago today two Londoners, Robert William Paul and Birt Acres, filmed the Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race — or at least the 40 seconds or so that they could get on to the 50 feet of film their camera held. This was the birth of British cinematography, and the world's first film of a news event.

Paul was a 25-year-old scientific instrument-maker with his own workshop in Hatton Garden. Late in 1894 he was approached by two Greeks who asked him to make them some counterfeits of Edison's Kinetoscope — the first commercial motion-picture device using 35mm film of the format still employed today. In the kinetoscope, however, the picture was not projected on a screen, but viewed as a peepshow.

Discovering that Edison had neglected to patent the kinetoscope in Britain, Paul at once began energetic production of his own version, which quickly found a brisk market in France as well as in Britain. In order to supply purchasers with films, however, he found himself faced with the necessity of inventing a film camera to make them. He entered into partnership with an inventive photographer, Birt Acres, and by March 29 1895 they had perfected a camera and taken their first experimental film, outside the door of Acres home, Clovelly Cottage, Barnet.

The Boat Race was the next day, and Acres went down to Putney to film the event. The resulting film, along with others, was shown throughout the summer in kinetoscopes that Paul installed in the Empire of India Exhibition at Earls Court. At twopence a look, it no doubt brought back a nice profit.

Soon after, Paul and Acres quarrelled and parted, thereafter competing to be first to produce a projector so that their moving pictures might be seen on a screen rather than in peepshows. Acres won, presenting the first-ever screen performance of films in this country on January 14 1896. Paul launched his "Theatrograph" on February 20 — the same day as the London premiere of the Lumière cinematographe. Acres shortly afterwards quit filmmaking, but Paul went on to become the acknowledged founder of the British cinema industry.

It might be supposed that a centenary as auspicious as the filming of the Boat Race would merit a plaque at Putney or the site of Paul's premises in Hatton Garden, or at least a mention on the *One O'Clock News*; but the occasion is in danger of passing unnoticed. This is all the more ironic since, ten days ago, British press and television gave quite frenzied coverage to French celebrations of the centenary of the day when Louis Lumière is supposed to have shot his first film.

The irony is compounded by growing suspicions that the French may actually have celebrated the wrong day. A recently discovered letter from fellow inventor Georges Demeny to Lumière, dated March 19 1895 — the very day when Lumiere is supposed to have been in Lyons filming "Workers Leaving the Lumiere Factory" — says "since you are currently in Paris . . ."

Even allowing for such cavalier treatment of dates, we British might take example from French cultural chauvinism in celebrating the cinema centenary. The Lyons commemoration earned worldwide publicity. In Paris a year-long programme of major exhibitions began with the Pompidou Centre's massive winter show dedicated to Pathé, the cinema's first great industrial empire. The Cinématheque française has currently an exhibition devoted to the rival industrial empire of Gaumont. At the Musée Carnavalet, "Paris Grand-Ecran" recalls a hundred years of Parisian movie theatres. Last Thursday saw the opening of an exhibition at La Monnaie de Paris, "L'Art et le Te Art", which vividly and imaginatively traces the interconnections between cinema and 20th-century art, from Futurism and Dada, through the treasures of the Cinématheque.

Other exhibitions are scheduled at the Musée d'Orsay and l'Espace Electra. And the French celebrations will culminate on December 28, the anniversary of the Lumière brothers' first shows for a paying public at the Grand Café, Boulevard des Capucines.

The Germans have their own claim to priority in cinema history, since the brothers Max and Emil Skladanosky gave their first film shows to a paying public at the Wintergarten, Berlin on November 1 1895 — eight weeks before the Lumières. They, too, are well into their celebrations. Next week the Deutsche Kinematek in Berlin opens a massive centenary show that includes their most prized and recent acquisition, the huge personal collection of Marlene Dietrich, who appears to have kept every paper, prop or costume she ever used.

Britain, quite apart from forgetting poor Paul and Acres, appears to be lagging behind. Cinema 100 — an organisation set up to coordinate this country's commemorations — seems perversely determined to celebrate the 101st anniversary, only dating the beginnings of the cinema from the arrival of the Lumières in Britain on February 20 1896, when they showed the Cinematographe at the Polytechnic, Regent Street.

Indeed Cinema 100 seems generally to be paying excessive tribute to the French. The latest issue of its bulletin (while giving due credit to the Museum of the Moving Image's current series of shows, "Countdown to Cinema") only begins its list of "key first screening dates" with the Lumières' Paris show on December 28 1895. The Acres and Paul premieres are ignored. A shade more chauvinism would be in order.

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ **House full, returns only**
◪ **Some seats available**
☐ **Seats at all prices**

☐ **AIN'T MISBEHAVIN'** Exhilarating song 'n' dance show created from the hits of Fats Waller. Non-stop energy on feet.
Lyric, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5045). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs 3pm and Sat, 5pm.

■ **THE BLUE BALL.** Paul Godfrey, author of *Once in a While the Odd Thing Happens*, directs his new play, an investigation into the experience of Space, as revealed to the first astronauts.
National (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Opens tonight, 7pm, then Fri-Mon, 7.30pm; mat Sat 2.30pm.

◪ **BROKEN GLASS** Arthur Miller's masterly drama, distilling his lifelong concern with personal responsibility. David Thacker's production, with Henry Goodman and Margot Leicester superb as the central Jewish couple.
Duke of York's, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-836 5122). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

◪ **DANGEROUS CORNER** Keith Baxter directs an excellent cast in Priestley's psychological thriller about the grey areas in people's lives it is wiser not to probe into.
Whitehall, Whitehall, SW1 (0171-369 1735). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, 3pm and Sat, 5pm.

☐ **IN PRAISE OF LOVE** Peter Bowles and Lisa Harrow in Rattigan drama about bravely facing death. Interesting and finally touching as it shows the effects, ill and good, of emotional restraint.
Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 5pm.

◪ **INDIAN INK** Felicity Kendal, Art Malik and Margaret Tyzack in Tom Stoppard's latest, wittily, poignantly exploring aspects of Anglo-Indian resentments and respect. Peter Wood directs.
Aldwych, Aldwych, WC2 (0171-416 6003). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

☐ **KILLER JOE.** Utterly absorbing shock-drama by Tracy Letts where a trash-trailer family virtually annihilates itself by employing a hit-man to kill their unwanted Mom. Wilson Milam directs the original Chicago production.
Vaudeville, Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987). Mon-Sat, 8pm.

☐ **THE LIVE BED SHOW** Arthur Smith's revised version of his 1988 Edinburgh Festival comedy. Caroline Quentin and Paul Merton play a couple on their journey towards sharing a bed.
Garrick, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494 5085). Mon-Thurs, 8pm; Fri and Sat, 6.30pm and 8.45pm.

☐ **LUCKY.** The inner world of an autistic boy. Latest of David Glass's thrilling pieces of visually arresting physical theatre, written and performed by Glass and directed by Rae Smith.
Young Vic Studio, The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 6363). Tonight-Sat, 8pm.

■ **THE STEWARD OF CHRISTENDOM.** Donald McCann plays an ex-super of the Dublin Police looking back on his life and keeping his ghosts at bay. Sebastian Barry's play, directed by Max Stafford-Clark for Out of Joint.
Theatre Upstairs, Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (0171-730 2554). Previews begin tonight, 7.45pm, opens April 4 and 5, 7pm. Until Apr 22.

☐ **UP'N'UNDER.** John Godber's rugby play, done by Hull Truck. Enthusiastic 'n' simple. Leave your brains in the changing room.
Playhouse, Northumberland Avenue, WC2 (0171-839 4401). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 5pm.

◪ **THE WINTER GUEST.** Phyllida Law and Sian Thomas head Alan Rickman's sensitively directed cast in Sharman Macdonald's fine play about loss, survival, the perils and joys of life.
Almeida, Almeida Street, N1 (0171-359 4404). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm.

LONG RUNNERS

☐ **Arcadia:** Haymarket (0171-930 8800) . ☐ **Buddy:** Victoria Palace (0171-834 1317) . ◪ **Cats:** New London (0171-405 0072) . ☐ **Copacabana:** Prince of Wales (0171-839 5972) . ☐ **Crazy for You:** Prince Edward (0171-734 8951) . . . ☐ **Don't Dress for Dinner:** Duchess (0171-494 5070) . ◪ **Grease:** Dominion (0171-416 6060) . . ■ **Les Misérables:** Palace (0171-434 0909) . ◪ **Miss Saigon:** Theatre Royal (0171-494 5400) . . ☐ **The Mousetrap:** St Martin's (0171-836 1443) . ☐ **My Night With Reg:** Criterion (0171-839 4488) . . ■ **Oliver!:** Palladium (0171-494 5020) . ◪ **A Passionate Woman:** Comedy (0171-369 1731) . ☐ **She Loves Me:** Savoy (0171-836 8888) . . ■ **Starlight Express:** Apollo Victoria (0171-828 8665) . ◪ **Sunset Boulevard:** Adelphi (0171-344 0055) . ■ **Three Tall Women.** Wyndhams, booking until Apr 22 (0171-369 1736) . . ◪ **The Woman in Black:** Fortune (0171-836 2238).

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre.

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

◆ **DROP ZONE** (15) Wesley Snipes goes undercover to catch sky-diving criminals. Good aerial stunts, otherwise, an empty action thriller. With Yancy Butler and Gary Busey. Director, John Badham.
MGM Trocadero (0171-434 0031), **Plaza** (0800 888997), **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332), **Warner** (0171-437 4343).

THE MADNESS OF KING GEORGE (PG). Nigel Hawthorne reigns supreme as Alan Bennett's tormented monarch. A fine film transfer by stage director Nicholas Hytner, with Helen Mirren and Ian Holm.
Barbican (0171-638 8891), **Chelsea** (0171-351 3742), **Gate** (0171-727 4043), **Lumiere** (0171-836 0691), **MGMs: Haymarket** (0171-839 1527), **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148), **Odeon Kensington** (01426 914666), **Screen/Hill** (0171-435 3566), **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332), **Warner** (0171-437 4343).

MI VIDA LOCA (15) Unfocused tales of LA gang life, from a female perspective. Allison Landers (Gas Food Lodging) directs.
Electric (0171-792 2020), **Metro** (0171-437 0757).

NOBODY'S FOOL (15) Endearing slice of small-town Americana, with Paul Newman, Melanie Griffith, Bruce Willis and Jessica Tandy. Writer-director, Robert Benton.
Odeon West End (01426-915 574).

CURRENT

AMATEUR (15) Amnesiac pornographer faces his past with a former nun's help. Clunky, touching, pseudo-thriller from Hal Hartley.
MGM Panton Street (0171-930 0631).

◆ **DISCLOSURE** (18) Michael Douglas says no to Demi Moore. Superficially enjoyable version of Michael Crichton's sexual harassment novel. Director, Barry Levinson.

Barbican (0171-638 8891) **MGMs: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636), **Trocadero** (0171-434 0031), **Notting Hill Coronet** (0171-727 6705), **Odeon Marble Arch** (01426 914501), **Screen/ Baker Street** (0171-935 2772), **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332), **Warner** (0171-437 4343).

IMMORTAL BELOVED (15) Gary Oldman as Beethoven, but the film still ends up worthy and dull. With Jeroen Krabbe and Isabella Rossellini. Writer-director, Bernard Rose.
Empire (0800 888911), **MGM Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636), **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332).

◆ **I.Q.** (U) Albert Einstein steers his niece towards romance with an ordinary Joe. Overly cute comedy with Meg Ryan, Tim Robbins and Walter Matthau.
Empire (0800 888911), **MGMs: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636), **Trocadero** (0171-434 0031), **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332).

◆ **LITTLE WOMEN** (U) Fresh, tender, feminist version of the 19th-century classic, with Winona Ryder, Susan Sarandon, and Gabriel Byrne. Director, Gillian Armstrong.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323), **MGM Chelsea** (0171-352 5096), **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666), **Leicester Square** (0426-915 683), **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098), **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332).

MRS. PARKER AND THE VICIOUS CIRCLE (15) Alan Rudolph's melancholy and witty portrait of Dorothy Parker and her era. Compelling performances from Jennifer Jason Leigh and a well-chosen cast.

Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323), **Curzon Mayfair** (0171-369 1720), **Renoir** (0171-837 8402), **Richmond** (0181-332 0030), **Warner** (0171-437 4343).

◆ **NATURAL BORN KILLERS** (18) Warped lovers embark on a shooting rampage, with the media in pursuit. Wearisome excess from director Oliver Stone.
Electric (0171-792 2020), **MGMs: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636), **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666), **Mezzanine** (01426 915683), **Warner** (0171-437 4343).

◆ **NELL** (12). Doctor Liam Neeson nurtures backwoods wild child Jodie Foster. Well acted, well meant, but glutinous. Director, Michael Apted.
MGMs: Chelsea (0171-352 5096), **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148), **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666), **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098), **West End** (01426 915574), **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332).

◆ **PRET-A-PORTER** (15): Surprisingly feeble satire on the fashion world from Robert Altman. With Kim Basinger, Sophia Loren, Marcello Mastroianni, Stephen Rea and many others.
MGMs: Fulham Rd (0171-370 2636), **Tottenham Court Rd** (0171-636 6148), **Odeons: Mezzanine** (01426 915683), **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098), **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332).

◆ **THE RIVER WILD** (12): Criminals imperil a family on their white water rafting holiday. Enjoyable action thriller, with Meryl Streep and Kevin Bacon.
MGM Trocadero (0171-434 0031), **Plaza** (0800 888997).

◆ **THE SHAWSHANK REDEMPTION.** How to survive long decades in prison. Engrossing drama with Tim Robbins and Morgan Freeman.
MGMs: Chelsea (0171-352 5096), **Shaftesbury Avenue** (0171-836 6279), **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666), **Mezzanine** (01426 915683), **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098), **Plaza** (0800 888997), **UCI Whiteleys** (792 3332).

JAZZ: Uncompromising audacity from a peerless veteran singer

Downbeat on the up and up

Betty Carter
Ronnie Scott's

BETTY CARTER is now generally acknowledged to be the world's foremost jazz singer. She has come a long way in the 50-odd years since she first attracted public attention by winning an Amateur Night talent contest at Paradise Theatre in Detroit when in her mid-teens.

Although she had sung before her twentieth birthday not only with bop pioneer Charlie Parker but also with swing legend Lionel Hampton, she remained a well-kept secret until her signing to Verve in 1987. Her first album for the label, *Look What I Got*, won rave reviews and was awarded a Grammy; since then she has regularly topped Downbeat polls.

All this — admittedly somewhat belated — success would be less surprising if Carter were a purveyor of immediately accessible torch songs or tastefully jazzed-up standards; she is, instead, one of the most uncompromisingly adventurous vocal improvisers in the music.

Her rendition of the set-opening *Smile* was typical: over a carefully arranged, hushed backing of bowed bass, rippling piano, and cymbals made to "breathe" with mallets, she moulded both tune and lyrics into shapes no other singer would conceive of, let alone attempt. No other singer would be able to rivet an audience's attention the way Carter did, particularly at such a murderously slow tempo; she is a mesmerising performer, constantly prowling the stage, raking the audience with an unflinching gaze as if searching for malefactors, dramatically emphasising emotional high points with extraordinary — but always oddly appropriate — facial and bodily contortions.

A skilfully paced set embraced both standards such as a hectic, scatted *A-Tisket, A-Tasket*, and originals dealing with archetypal Carter themes centring on the subtle self-concealment practised by lovers. She also demonstrated a subsidiary but none the less vital art: she is a peerless talent-spotter, running what amounts to an academy for training young musicians.

Previous "graduates" include pianists Mulgrew Miller, Benny Green and Jacky Terrasson, and drummer Winard Harper. Judging by their sharpness and precision her current trio, pianist Xavier Davis, bassist Eric Revis and drummer Willie Terrill, are certain to emulate their distinguished predecessors.

From start to finish, this was a performance of sheer perfection; both Betty Carter's voice and her commitment seem to be growing stronger with each passing year.

CHRIS PARKER

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Tom't 7.30

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and Birt Acres
with his camera

CONCERT

Royal Dutch treat

Concertgebouw/ Chailly
Barbican

THE Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra has always had many fine qualities: strings with a rich sheen from top to bottom of the register; a well-rounded woodwind choir; a unity of ensemble which convinces you that every player knows every note not just of his or her own part but of the entire score. Those attributes were all on display last Tuesday.

Riccardo Chailly, the Royal Concertgebouw's chief conductor since 1988, tends to show a reliable pair of hands rather than any fiery extravagance. He brought to Richard Strauss's tone poem *Ein Heldenleben* at the end of this concert all the opulence of sonority one could ask for, all the clarity of balance which such dense scoring dictates. There was also some wonderfully poised solo violin playing from one of the orchestra's two joint leaders. But this piece needs an impetuous self-awareness which it here lacked.

That misgiving might be technically analysed and put down to minuscule shortcomings in departments such as dynamic contrast, shaping of phrase and intensity of tone quality. None of those things were lacking, however, in Beethoven's *Egmont Overture*, which opened the concert. Here Chailly and his band were alive to every tension, every turn of this militaristic drama.

To hear them play Beethoven in such a manner must have cheered the heart of Maria Joao Pires, whose account of the same composer's Third Piano Concerto, beautifully accompanied, was one of the most exquisite I have ever heard. Nothing was merely incidental; everything was weighted perfectly, coloured carefully and phrased with a sense of human breath so that one was compelled to hang on to every moment in dramatic, poetic or celebratory music alike. Pires is up there among the really great pianists of our own or any other time.

STEPHEN PETTITT

OPERA: A Shostakovich musical tame enough for Uncle Joe; a Handel curiosity; why *La Wally* should stay dead

DONALD COOPER



Song and dance: in Shostakovich's slight, tinkling musical comedy, *Cheryomushki*, the residents of Cherry Trees Estate must fight petty corruption to build their "magic garden" in a Moscow high-rise

Paradise in trouble

Cheryomushki
Lyric, Hammersmith

In his play *Master Class*, David Pownall imagines a confrontation between Stalin and Shostakovich. "Purge the misery," cries Uncle Joe, "change misery into delight." The great composer finds himself obsequiously setting to music a crazy tale about tigers and lions while the great dictator enjoins him to embrace melody and shun atonal rubbish: "I don't want you taking it to pieces and kicking it around until it's unrecognisable".

But on the evidence of Pimlico Opera's production of Shostakovich's musical comedy, *Cheryomushki*, Stalin had no need to get exercised. The composer could write as mellifluously, if not as tunefully, as Offenbach, Sullivan or Lehár. He could set a silly story to derivative music; and he did so even after Stalin's death. *Cheryomushki* was first performed in 1959, during the Khrushchev thaw, but you cannot believe this tiny, tinkling confection would have caused much offence in Stalin's bleak midwinter.

"Cheryomushki" apparently means Cherry Trees Estate, which is one of those vast apartment blocks that mar the Moscow skyline but at least provide a little cramped shelter for its huddled masses. There is a hint of nostalgia in the musical for those parts of the old city that have succumbed to the bulldozers, but it is not to be taken too seriously. Sasha and Masha, for whom marriage means meeting during the day and sleeping in separate dorms at night, regard Cheryomushki as a potential paradise. So do the supporting characters, who include a feisty woman construction worker called Lusya, a perky explosives expert called Boris and the vampish Vava and her city-slicker spouse, Drebyednyetsov.

These last two provide what little conflict the evening possesses, for they are surreptitiously in cahoots with the estate manager, Barabashkin. Walls are being knocked down and the two-room flats meant for our heroes transformed into a four-room one for the villains. But before this wrinkle can become a knot, Drebyednyetsov is sacked, presumably by wise city fathers off-stage, and the cast is left to go on building its "magic garden" and singing mindless ditties.

Both David Pountney, who adapted the original libretto, and Gerard McBurney, who re-orchestrated the music, suggest in the programme that there is something gently subversive about Shostakovich's contribution. If so, it is on a par with the insolence of the journalist in *Beyond the Fringe* who boasted of thinking rebellious thoughts about Lord Beaverbrook while slavishly obeying him. To write satirically of housing problems and the corruption of minor functionaries was permissible in the old Soviet Union and Shostakovich embellishes the story with nothing that sounds Weillian, Sondheimian, or even slightly outré and odd.

If you learnt that Nietzsche wrote nursery rhymes, or Aeschylus limericks, you would doubtless be intrigued: but eventually you would have to ask if the rhymes and limericks were any good. It is the same here. Once you have stopped being surprised that Shostakovich wrote musical comedy at all, you are likely to appreciate why doing so made him "cringe with shame". Nor does he get much posthumous help from Lucy Bailey's direction, Paul Andrews's cardboard-cartoon decor or performers who sing very sweetly but (Janet Fullerlove's Vava the notable exception) act woodenly. Where is the imaginative originality, the sly satiric edge? Nowhere at all.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

Handel with sauce

Deidamia
Britten Theatre, RCM

THE London Handel Society's collaboration with the Royal Schools' Vocal Faculty — the former provides orchestra and impetus, the latter singers and theatre — usefully plugs gaps in the capital's operatic experience. Eighteen months ago they gave the rarely performed *Siroe*, and this week's offering as part of the London Handel Festival is *Deidamia*, the composer's last opera. It has not been seen here for nearly 30 years.

It is a curious work, with detached, ironic content typical of Handel's late period. The action is actually rather saucy, centering on Achilles hiding on the island of Scyros dressed as a girl in order to avoid call-up for the Trojan War — one of opera's first known draft-dodgers. He whiles away the time in dalliance with King Lycomedes's daughter Deidamia, rather to the surprise of the latter's confidante, Nerea, who is at first unaware of the disguise.

Ulysses and Phoenix, Prince of Argos, arrive to flush Achilles out and establish that this girl is no girl by paying court to him/her, which upsets previously established amatory arrangements no end. Much of this takes place during a hunt, as might indeed occur today in some of the better counties. Traditions die hard.

The ending is even more curious. Achilles departs enthusiastically for death and glory, leaving Deidamia heartbroken. But the cheerful final duet is for the heroine and the instrument of her misery, Ulysses, with Achilles merely looking on, and the final chorus acknowledges the transitory nature of human affection.

Not all the score is top-drawer Handel, but enough of it is. That duet is superb, and so is Deidamia's outburst of rage at Ulysses for destroying her idyll. There is also a charming aria for the King about the pleasures of peace and quiet in old age — Handel at his most urbane.

The score was conducted with good dramatic impulse by Denys Darlow, though some cuts were to be regretted — it is not a particularly long work. Mike Ashman's gently larky production had much charm, as did Bernard Culshaw's set (a sunny beach with a nice derangement of obelisks) and his time-travelling costumes.

Handel needs great singing, and my heart sank in a generally nervy and insecure first act, but the students pulled themselves together for the remaining two and delivered performances of pleasing accomplishment.

Particularly notable were Tobias Cole (Ulysses), a young Australian countertenor with bright, clear tone and admirable precision in passage-work, and Jeni Bern (Deidamia) and Margaret Kelly Cook (Nerea), both blessed with warm soprano tone and secure technique. Franzita Whelan made a tomboyish Achilles, and her grainy mezzo is as full of character as it is of promise. Repeat performances are tonight and tomorrow.

RODNEY MILNES

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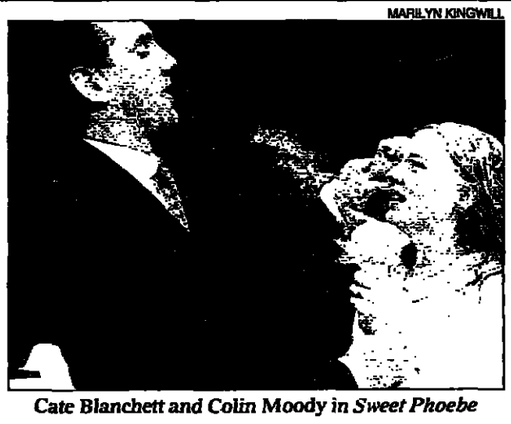
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THEATRE

Dinkie, dogged Diggers

MARILYN KINGWILL



Cate Blanchett and Colin Moody in Sweet Phoebe

Sweet Phoebe
Warehouse, Croydon

PHOEBE is a dog whose arrival at the home of a couple of Australian dinkies (double income, no kids) upheaves their lives. This much was revealed in the press release, and my spirits fell.

But Michael Gow's short play turns out to be a good deal more rewarding than an exposure to Aussie dog-soppiness would have been. The dinkies, Helen and Frazer, have been doing very nicely in their respective jobs; both are seemingly out-front with their feelings and demands and congratulate one another on having eliminated conflict from their lives. In short, they are a couple of nervous breakdowns waiting to happen, and the pet they agree to look after is the catalyst for the calamity.

Inevitably, they become fond of the creature, enjoy taking her on long walks, and just as this change of heart is becoming a mite cloying, Frazer loses her. From this moment on their lives crack. As Frazer searches the local pounds, his previously suppressed rage blasts into the open. As Helen scours Sydney's vast suburbia, she glimpses wretched and exotic lives hitherto unknown to her.

The detailed reports of these sorties are acted out with a vehemence that seems at first too peculiar, so that I suspected Gow of using them as a travelogue on Sydney's various underbellies. But the vigour of the writing and the passion of Cate Blanchett's increasingly agitated re-enactments uncover something else. The Bohemian camaraderie and desperate loneliness she encounters — the housewife comically sidelining as a dominatrix, the sudden elation of singing *Only You* in a Korean restaurant — all show her the inadequacy of her clean and ordered existence.

Blanchett's performance moves persuasively between puzzlement, nervous certainty and grief, strongly supported by Colin Moody, who charts Frazer's struggle through destructive fury to his tearful, closing appeal.

Arriving in Croydon only a week after ending its Australian run, this Sydney Theatre Company production is ably directed by the author and lit by Douglas Kuhrt with a sensitive eye for the emotional power of murk. The dog is heard but not seen.

JEREMY KINGSTON

Silliness reaches its peak

La Wally
Bloomsbury

THE question remains, is the rest of the opera really worth enduring for the famous *Diva* aria? Toscanini thought yes, and christened his poor daughter Wally: history so far has said no, and the opera has not been seen or heard of professionally in England since 1919.

No one has yet convinced me that it is not a Thoroughly Silly Opera, interesting enough to cross-reference to Puccini (whom Catalani taught) and Wagner (whom he revered), but peopled with cardboard creatures.

University College Opera is justifiably praised for its 45 years of exhumations from *Halka* to *Hulda*. But when the orchestra (conducted by David Drummond) can scarcely get its fingers round the score, when adequate casting seems impossible, and when the director takes Catalani's melodrama at face, alpine-kitsch value, then it begins to feel suspiciously like a waste of an evening.

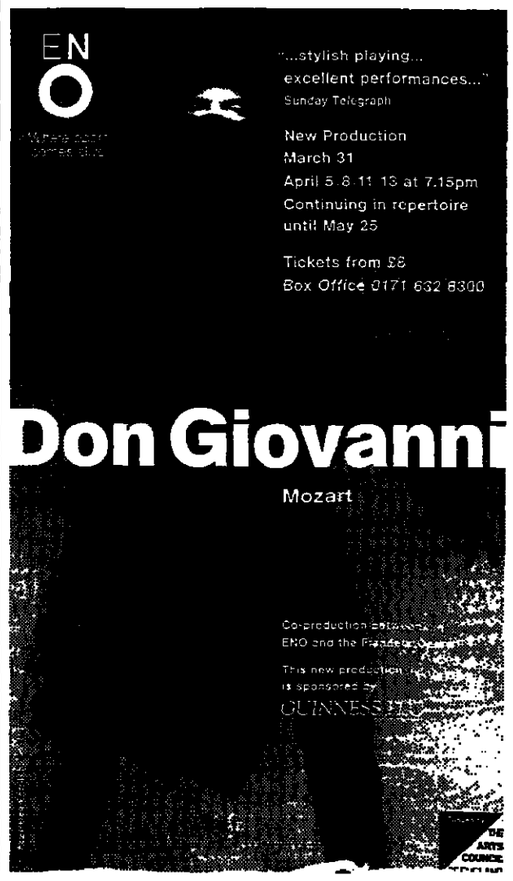
Julia Hollander, and her designer Tahra Kharibian, have rigged up a diagonal of a ski slope, variously covered by white sheet, or alpine-meadow throw, trained a motley band of villagers to dance (if not to sing) round it, and given it an impressive fracturing for the last act (which also contains some of the best, icy music).

There is much clambering up the slope, much pointing to distant horizons, much moving on cue to the music. And there is something of a virtuoso denouement when Gellner, the spurned lover, climbs through a trap door in the slope, drops on to La Wally's glacial bed, and pushes her back up the slope. Ropes then haul up La Wally, with her true love Hagenbach in deadly embrace, while the poor rejected wretch quietly slits his wrists on her bed.

This tragedy might not have provoked quite so much unseemly (if discreetly stifled) laughter had its hero and heroine had the voices to suspend our disbelief for just one moment. Only Anne Gerbic's Walther (Wally's companion) and Margareta Hillerud's Afra (Hagenbach's illigitimate daughter) seemed to have taken any care to nurture their voices.

La Wally herself (Elizabeth Hetherington), played as a deranged Ophelia in nightie and mountain boots, was under considerable strain. Donald Stephenson as Hagenbach was either ill, or having serious problems with his voice. I fear for his larynx, and hope things improve for Friday and Saturday.

HILARY FINCH



DANCE: Jasper Conran dresses to kill

An ugly duckling

Swan Lake
New Victoria Theatre, Woking

WITH all the publicity Jasper Conran has received for the Scottish Ballet's new *Swan Lake*, on show this week as part of the Woking Dance Umbrella festival, you could be forgiven for thinking that he had written the ballet himself.

What Conran has done with his sets and costumes is give the 19th-century Russian classic an Age of Reason frame of reference, a misplaced sense of order that clashes with the ballet's wildly romantic spirit. Act I, in the palace garden, could be a Fragonard painting suddenly brought to life: all powdered wigs, satin breeches and cut flowers in hand-held baskets. The courtiers and ladies-in-waiting perch decorously against elegantly sculpted hedges.

Act III, the palace interior, is stripped of all unnecessary decoration, just a dense expanse of purply blue columns and arches, outlined in gold, that is visually anaesthetising (although Odile's black tutu is truly stunning against it). Only in the two lakeside scenes does Conran evoke the tremors of a dangerous naturalism, of passions unleashed, with huge jagged rocks jutting over the lake of tears.

The producer, Galina Samsova, is also to blame for the superficial prettification. Although we are treated to a short prologue showing how the evil magician Von Rothbart was able to transform Princess Odette into a swan, Samsova has given Siegfried little dramatic detail to develop his character in Act I. Where are the moments that describe his disaffection and his rebellion? What motivates his love for Odette?

The ball scene is another missed opportunity: the Queen Mother's admonition to her son to choose a bride is only fleetingly etched, so that his betrayal of Odette lacks ironic punch. Choreographically, too, this is the weakest scene, with national dances that have little ethnic flavour and even less vigour.

On top of all this, you have performers — on Tuesday night at least — unable to plumb the poetic depths of metaphor. Hans Nilsson as Prince Siegfried was a slender presence who wandered through his quest like a bewildered child. Simon Stewart was miscast as Von Rothbart.

By contrast, Daria Klimentova came across as thoroughly accomplished. Her Odette was effortlessly fluent, her Odile playfully wicked. But it all felt a bit like *Swan Lake* by numbers, even though conductor Alan Barker did his best to inject musical zest into a lifeless evening.

DEBRA CRAINE

Nigella Lawson acclaims Camille Paglia's determination to wrest feminism back from those who want women to remain victims

Our sometime sister, now our queen

VAMPS & TRAMPS
By Camille Paglia
Viking, £17

It took Camille Paglia 20 years to get her first book, *Sexual Personae*, published: since then the feminist that other feminists love to hate has scarcely been out of the public prints. The glossy magazine and trashy scandal sheet are as much her forum as the scholarly paper. She is the don made over as diva, and how she exults in her role: on the cover of her new collection of essays, *Vamps & Tramps*, she is photographed, made up to the hilt and posturing, Emma Peel-like, on the cover. Inside, where it matters, she poses less. Her prose is unshakeably honest, lucid and, as ever, a masterpiece of camp and vertiginous invective.

In fact, it's more than that. Those who seek to condemn her as a publicity-seeking nutcase — she's that, too — choose to ignore the slash-and-burn fierceness of her intelligence or the immense seriousness and capaciousness of her learning. Paglia herself might say that it is their ignorance that pointedly prevents their recognising the real thing when they see it. "Is there intellectual life in America?" she asks: "At present, the answer is no." Writers who do not meet with political approval are edged out of the syllabus, "theory has supplanted literature, and criticism has degenerated into moralistic text-trashing".

But it is the "snide ahistoricism" of the women's movement that is Paglia's particular bugbear. "One of the great lies of women's studies," she writes, "is that European art history was written by white males and that feminism has conclusively rewritten that history by discovering and restoring major female artists excluded from the pantheon by patriarchal conspiracy. But European art history was not just written but created by white males. We may lament the limitations placed on women's training and professional access in the past, but what is done cannot be undone . . . We will never get great art from women if their education exposes them only to the second-rate and if the idea of greatness itself is denied."

As a phallus-worshipping lesbian, Paglia's stance is probably unique. She is most famous for insisting that if women had ruled the world we would still be living in grass huts. She likes to tease: but she means it. In England, where we have a literary tradition of rudeness — viz. Waugh *père et fils* — Paglia's spectacular and vicious gibes may perhaps be less guiltily enjoyed. She is particulary unsparing of Andrea Dworkin, who "like Kate Millett has turned a garish history of mental instability into feminist grand opera". Dworkin, she sneers exultingly, "is a type that I recognise after 22 years of teaching. I call her The Girl with the Eternal Cold. This was the pudgy, clumsy, whiney child at summer camp who was always spilling her milk, dropping her lollipop in the dirt, getting a cramp on the hike, a stone in her shoe, or a bee in her hair."


Paglia: don made over as diva

Paglia's aim is not merely to upset Dworkin, but to discredit her particular brand of "Infirmary Feminism, with its bedlam of bellyachers, anorexics, bulimics, depressives, rape victims and incest survivors. Feminism has become a catch-all vegetable drawer where bunches of clingy sob-sisters can store their mouldy neuroses." And it is important that it be discredited, not from the perspective of the religious Right but by someone who is fired with the muscular egalitarianism of 1960s left-wing ideology.

Paglia is right to fight, kicking and screaming, against the offensively cramping view of women as perpetual victims. It is important to wrest feminism back from the puritans and philistines. Paglia's irritation with the women's movement is not merely with its sentimental idealisation of women and demonisation of men, but with its failure to recognise the true oppressor: "It is nature, not patriarchal society, that puts motherhood and career in a collision course," she retorts.

"Fascist" she's called when she airs these views: the urge to deny and resist what she says goes to the guts. But the failure of feminism to be honest about the realities of motherhood is something that remains to be properly charted by those who with justification feel let down by it.

On the abortion issue Paglia is no less impatient. The feminist tag of "pro-choice" is, she scorns, pusillanimous, and reveals feminism's failure to accept the violence inherent in any termination of life. She herself is "fervently pro-abortion". Her rhetoric, blazingly honest, can hit with the shock of the true: "Unlike the feminist establishment, I recognise that abortion is killing. But slaughter and harvest . . . are the record of human sustenance and survival for 10,000 years . . . Modern woman has become an agent of Darwinian triage. It is or should be ethically troubling: abortion pits the stronger against the weaker, and only one survives."

Paglia is possessed of a teacher's ability to convey passion. She is brilliant, queeny, cruel, boastful and egomaniacal. Nearly every essay — on a dizzying variety of subjects, from D.H. Lawrence to Hillary Clinton, taking in Kenneth Clarke, rape, pornography and Barbra Streisand — ripples with yapping self-regard. The appendix to the volume is in the form of a collection of cartoons featuring her and an itemisation of all articles mentioning her.

It should irritate and yet it exhilarates. She isn't someone you either love or hate: she's someone you love *and* hate. Reading Paglia, an American critic once said, is like drinking three espressos on the trot. She is the scholar as rap artist. Camille Paglia is no woman of straw: her high opinion of herself is properly earned.

Take our money or open up the Box?

Ian McIntyre

COMPETITION
The History of Broadcasting in the United Kingdom
Volume V: 1955-1974
By Asa Briggs
OUP, £45

This is the story of the first two decades of competitive broadcasting in this country, told from a BBC vantage point. It opens in 1955 with Auntie's top brass stuffily declining invitations to the Guildhall banquet to launch Independent Television. It ends in 1974 with the Governors criticising BBC Television's general election coverage as wasteful and over-complicated; one of them, the poet Roy Fuller, described it as "a late Roman Empire symptom of decadence".

The book is organised chronologically, and much of the material illuminates episodes in national as well as in broadcasting history. The whole of the second chapter, for instance, is given over to the Suez crisis, during which for a time the very existence of the BBC appeared to be in question — Briggs draws a parallel with the threat posed to the infant BBC in Reith's day by the General Strike.

Another chapter is devoted to the controversial regime of Hugh Greene. "One of Us," said a smug headline in *Ariel*, the BBC's staff magazine, when he took over at the beginning of the 1960s. Briggs is probably correct in saying that Greene retained the support of most of the staff throughout his tenure, although his policies and management style were by no means universally admired inside the corporation. What is indisputable is that as the years passed he offended a dangerously large number of politicians and a substantial section of public opinion. In particular it was not at all clever to allow himself to be cast so prominently in the demonology of Mary Whitehouse.

Asa Briggs's painstaking study of board minutes has allowed him to pinpoint, towards the end of the Greene era, a defining moment in the corporation's history. He correctly identifies "a landmark statement in the history of the BBC" — an assertion by the Director-General that news was *sui generis*, "a branch of output unlike any other". It was this singling out of one aspect of broadcasting as different from all the rest which made possible the emergence of news (and later that unsatisfactory circus-horse called news and current affairs) as a powerful — and disruptive — state within a state.

A touch wearily, Briggs reminds us that he is not the BBC's "official" historian. Only the most careless reader could have supposed that he was. He has, once again, written much more than an institutional history. He is concerned with organisation, but he is not less concerned with programmes; he is keenly interested in policy, but he is fascinated by people.

The style seems crisper than in earlier volumes. The narrative is controlled and assured, with telling variations of pace and an effective use of light and shade. An important new source has been the BBC's Oral History Project, which Frank Gillard has been conducting since 1972; quite a number of the retired BBC panjandrums he has interviewed have waived the condition that their material should not be used in their lifetime.

The book benefits from a cleaner type-face than its predecessors (it was typeset, I notice, at Pondicherry, in southern India). There is also a useful — and highly entertaining — chronological table. Prepared by Leonard Miall, it runs to more than 60 pages and correlates BBC and ITV developments with events in the United Kingdom and in the world at large; it is good to be reminded that Khrushchev denounced Stalin at the 20th Party Congress in 1956 only four days after *Muffin the Mule* had transferred from the BBC to ITV.

This is a publishing project which began with an invitation from the BBC in 1958, during the distinguished director-generalship of Sir Ian Jacob. Briggs, that is to say, has been at work on his *History of Broadcasting in the United Kingdom* for half as long again as it took Gibbon to chronicle the 13 centuries that separated the age of Trajan from the fall of Constantinople.

The achievement is monumental. This is the fifth volume to appear, and although it carries the story forward only until 1974, there will not be another. Briggs lays down his pen with notable and dead-pan economy: "All else for this historian is round the corner." I imagine he shares the melancholy Gibbon felt at the knowledge that he had "taken an everlasting leave of an old and agreeable companion". But behind his discreet envoi I also detect considerable disappointment and possibly some indignation at the manner in which the BBC has resolved to give the quietus to this magisterial enterprise.

Briggs notes that the BBC archives, on which his history has been primarily based, remain incompletely catalogued and that the small History of Broadcasting Unit, which made possible the preparation of a standard history of the BBC, disappeared in 1992. His aim has been to provide a work of reference for scholars outside the corporation as well as for the fast diminishing number of people inside it. "The BBC," he declares, "needs a memory bank." Without the kind of framework he has constructed over the years, scholars will find the writing of further monographs well-nigh impossible.

The governors of the BBC should not be misled by Lord Briggs's good manners. They appear at the moment to believe that the Hussey/Birt "reforms" have done the trick, and that in the matter of next year's Charter renewal they are home and dry. Unless they show signs of remembering that the archives are an important national resource of which they are the trustees, they deserve an unpleasant surprise.


Dr Who and the Celestial Toymaker (1966), with William Hartnell (left) as the first Dr Who. It was broadcast in black and white

Ex-priest writes ex cathedra

Melanie McDonagh

THE NEXT POPE
An Enquiry
By Peter Hebblethwaite
Fount, £5.99 pbk original

Peter Hebblethwaite's slim volume, *The Next Pope*, could be taken as a populist paperback guide for media observers of the next papal election: a trot through the conclaves of the last couple of centuries; a look back at the reign of the present Pope, pluses and minuses; a brief examination of the college of cardinals; and a kind of beauty parade of the most likely contenders for the throne of Peter next time (put your money on the Milanese Jesuit, Cardinal Martini).

He tries hard for an accessible approach: you get, for instance, a jokey and rather perplexing "moral" after the account of each former election. But, despite all his efforts, you detect the sureness of touch that comes from close personal observation of the system over many years. This is still a book from a master of the subject, the author of a remarkable biography of Paul VI. His criticisms of the institution are tempered by love.

Perhaps the most interesting bit of the book is the brief account of the present Pope's reign. Hebblethwaite manifests all the prejudices you might expect. He criticises the Pope's attitude to married priests, though he does not admit to his own interest in the matter, having left the priesthood himself to marry the Catholic writer Margaret


John Paul II: Polish cavalry?

Hebblethwaite, and the omission is not made good in the biographical introduction to the book. He takes a dim view of the Pope's approach to women priests, particularly the apparent attempt to bind his predecessors in the matter, in contrast to the more cautious Paul VI. Quite rightly, he worries about the excessive influence of Opus Dei during this pontificate.

However, he does credit to positive side of John Paul II, whom he compares to the Polish horsemen who charged tanks, a glorious but ultimately futile episode, and this he locates precisely in his Polishness. The Pope is conscious of the social distortions created by capitalism by virtue of his experience of communism; his concern with Jewish relations may stem in part from his personal friendship with Jews and his proximity to Auschwitz. As a Slav, the Pope is sensitive to the different theological traditions of the Eastern churches. These are all wholesome influences on Catholicism, as Hebblethwaite acknowledges.

And what of the future? After the breathless pace of the present pontificate, he suggests it might be no bad thing to have a Pope whose style is more receptive to positive aspects of the modern world. Or perhaps a Pope who returns to his primary pastoral function, that of Bishop of Rome. But the succession is not yet an issue. Despite all the gloomy prognostications about his health, John Paul II is still with us. Peter Hebblethwaite, however, died after writing this book.

Requiescat in pace.

The Europe of the functionaries

Bruce Anderson

JEAN MONNET
First Statesman of Interdependence
By François Duchêne
Norton, £22

JACQUES DELORS
and European Integration
By George Ross
Polity Press, £45

Jean Monnet was the third most important French politician this century: only de Gaulle and Clemenceau outrank him. He was remarkable, both for his achievements and for the contrast between his apparent personality and his breadth of vision. His life was full of paradoxes. In 1914, he was rejected for military service on health grounds: he lived to be 90. Of peasant stock and proud of it, his identity was rooted in the French countryside, and yet he was an immensely effective cosmopolitan. He had neither physical presence nor a commanding voice — the contrast with de Gaulle is absolute — but over six decades, he had almost unlimited access to the high councils of the great.

He achieved this by a mixture of clarity and charm, reinforced by persistence. He never allowed himself to be ruffled by rebuffs, but pressed ahead on his chosen course. From an early age he had an extraordinary list of contacts, financial and political, on both sides of the Atlantic. This enabled him to defend French interests with aplomb, even when there were no cards in his hand.

In later life, his non-combatant status was used against him by the Gaullists, but he did play a key role in co-ordinating the Allied supply effort during the First World War. At the end, Britain rewarded him with an honorary knighthood.

In the late 1930s, he realised that France was in peril because her air force was wholly unequal to the Luftwaffe, so he reactivated his supply network. On the eve of the war and in its early months, he threw all his energies into trying to buy warplanes in America. But he was frustrated both by the dilatoriness of French politics and by the constraints which neutrality imposed on Roosevelt. Finally, the *Blitzkrieg* put an end to his efforts.

He then played a crucial role in mediating between Roosevelt and de Gaulle. De Gaulle could see little merit in this civil servant who was too friendly with foreigners and who insisted on discussing economics at the dinner table. Monnet was more generous. He realised early on that de Gaulle's exalted estimate of his own importance was justified. From then on, he worked to protect the general from the Americans, and from himself. There was little gratitude.

This is all a splendid story, but alas, François Duchêne is incapable of telling it. His prose lacks any animation; every sentence is covered with a thin film of dust. It is clear that he understands the importance and the drama of the events he is narrating, and his judgment is sound. He can think and feel history: what a pity that he cannot write it.

De Gaulle and Monnet would make a fascinating study on the theme of Joan of Arc versus Père Goriot: two aspects of the eternal France. Their relations remained tense in the postwar era. Although he was in no sense anti-American, and endorsed Churchill's concept of concentric circles, Monnet believed in a European community, including Britain, as a counterweight to the United States. He also refused to concede the British any special status. We should take our place in Europe on equal terms, and not as one of the Big Three, condescending to the others. In this, Monnet's grasp of postwar geopolitics was shrewder than Churchill's, but unacceptable to de Gaulle. Monnet, who deplored the Gaullist approach to Europe, was furious when the general vetoed British membership.



The Sun is hard on the ecu

At that stage, the man of destiny seemed to have defeated the *fonctionnaire*. But that was only in the short run. In the quarter of the century since de Gaulle's departure, French policy towards Europe has been run on Monnet's lines much more than on Gaullist ones. The tortoise has a clear lead over the hare.

Which brings us to another *fonctionnaire*, Jacques Delors. George Ross has assembled some fascinating material in his account of the Delors *Cabinet* in operation. I defy all but the most fanatical British Europhile to read it without recoiling, for it is a study of a political culture which is both alien and threatening. There is one note of comfort. Ross is convinced that Maastricht was a defeat for the federalists and that, with enlargement, the Monnet vision of a Europe evolving towards supranationality is no longer sustainable. The future lies inevitably with a Europe of variable geometry.

Ross's book is indispensable for anyone concerned with the politics of Europe; it is also full of anecdotes and aperçus. But the writing style has all the freshness of a week-old baguette. Why is it that devotees of the European ideal produce prose that would just about do for a memorandum on paperclips?

Last gasp of the café culture

Edward Marriott

A NEW GRAND TOUR
By Godfrey Hodgson
Viking, £16

ONCE, the Grand Tour of Europe was undertaken only by a handful of well-connected young men wishing to polish their education. And it was an adventure — when Robert Byron and Richard Burton visited Greece and Arabia, they risked more than their traveller's cheques. Now the slide into mass tourism seems unstoppable. Ever since Thomas Cook began his tours in the mid-19th century, the sights have gradually become obscured by the volume of people who visit them. The Acropolis in Athens is now closed because of the erosion caused by tourists' feet.

Clearly, says Godfrey Hodgson, a "New Grand Tour" is required. The tourist should look deeper, into the culture and influences that have created Europe's cities. "By exploring a new past the traveller gives himself a new future," he writes.

Hodgson, a former foreign editor, has created a work of impressive research, which tells the stories of seven cities: London, Rome, Paris, Berlin, Vienna, Prague and St Petersburg. He has an eye for the telling detail, such as the number of pubs in London in 1890 — a staggering 9,000. He sketches the lives of the cities through their most striking inhabitants — Fyodor Dostoevsky in St Petersburg, Albert Einstein in Berlin, Gustav Mahler in Vienna.

He reminds us, too, of the grim past. How illuminating to know that, in St Petersburg during the 900 days' siege at the hands of the Nazis, some people turned cannibal, selling human flesh in the market; or to see Vienna in its historical context, as a fortress city, barricaded at the edge of Europe, against the Continent's most fearsome enemy — the Turk.

Hodgson paints a broad picture of a Europe becoming daily more lost — of cities whose culture and history is suffocating under high-rise car parks and office blocks. Technology, with its video recorders, stereos and home computers, is the enemy of the city. If you can communicate over the Internet, why go to cafés? The future looks bleak. This is Hodgson's polemical message, and it is the book's strongest point.

For the modern European tourist, the book would make a valuable and diverting companion. As a guide for the armchair traveller, however, *A New Grand Tour* is altogether less gripping. In attempting the grand picture, he has sacrificed real depth. In the chapter on Paris he slavers with disproportionate relish over the city's sex life, and who needs to be told that Freud was a "titanic figure in the development of the modern mind"? But Hodgson transmits a real enthusiasm for Europe's collective urban greatness and fascination, its squalor and culture.

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Worst enemy of his own promise

Peter Ackroyd on a splendid life of Cyril Connolly, the man of too many letters whose sybaritic career was redeemed by his generosity towards younger writers


OTTO KAMENSKI

Connolly at home with his daughter; he blamed "the pram in the hall" for his own laziness. His portrait by Stanley Devon hangs on the wall

Cyril Connolly was, in certain respects, a disappointed man. He aspired to the writing of fiction and serious criticism, but believed that he would be remembered only as a newspaper reviewer. There is nothing wrong with that, of course. It is a fine profession, as they said of Mrs Warren, and, being both erudite and generous, he was perhaps the last of his race.

Yet he had wanted to be more, much more, than that. He had wanted to be an artist, not a journalist. But the truth is that he had neither the temperament nor the talent for the former role. He had the gift of creating an immaculate phrase, and then stringing it upon another one, but he lacked what might be called weight. He had no vision of the world; he was only a talented observer of it.

He seems to have arrived ready-made. At school he was described as a "peacock among fowls", and by the time he arrived at Oxford he already carried what Kenneth Clark described as "the millstone of promise" around his neck. He wore it in a very striking fashion; it glittered even in the scintillating company of Brian Howard, Harold Acton and Evelyn Waugh.

Connolly once said that Oxford was "the cloakroom where I left my youth", and with youthfulness he lost any real hope that great things might be achieved. When he entered the world for the first time, he drifted. He abandoned any sense of purpose or direction, although it cannot be said that he had a very firm one in the first place. He was at last rescued by an elderly American literateur, Logan Pearsall Smith, who is perhaps best remembered for his aphorism, "An improper mind is a perpetual feast". Connolly became his secretary, always an interesting position for a young man, and was soon introduced to the assorted semi-nonentities who then, as now, comprise "literary London". He never guessed that the real work was being done elsewhere. As Virginia Woolf said of another eminent reviewer, Desmond MacCarthy, "Desmond was the most gifted of us all. But why did he never do anything?"

That might have been Connolly's own epitaph. He followed the now well-beaten path of cultured young men: he took up novel reviewing for a weekly periodical, he wrote an occasional essay on a subject of no importance, and made an unsuccessful attempt at a book. Then he married a rich young woman, not a moment too soon, and decided to travel instead. On occasions Clive Fisher describes Connolly as a "romantic", but in fact his own subtitle — "A Nostalgic Life" — is closer to the truth. If there was romance, it was of the cheaper kind that entails pity for oneself and one's own shortcomings. He was simply too indolent and wayward to do anything about it.

So reviewing became his natural element. He went back to the newspapers, but at some point made the cardinal mis-

CYRIL CONNOLLY
A Nostalgic Life
By Clive Fisher
Macmillan, £25

take of using the first person singular; there is nothing more depressing than a reviewer who takes himself, or herself, too seriously. Yet he was a clever and sensitive man, so his natural intelligence could not help breaking through — "Reviewing is a whole-time job with a half-time salary," he wrote, "... where nothing is secure or certain except the certainty of turning into a hack."

In fact he did try to be more than a hack, and managed to write a novel to which Fisher wisely allows only four pages. *The Rock Pool* resembles a work by George Orwell which has been heavily rewritten by Walter Pater. *Enemies of Promise* is a much more successful and interesting volume. Here with almost fatal prescience Connolly suggests that drink, journalism and domesticity can ruin any aspiration towards literary achievement; more revealing still is the final part of the book, in which he discusses his days at Eton with a certain charming morbidity. In that respect he was typical of his time: it is hard to think of another generation of English writers who have come so exclusively from the upper middle class and who have been so obsessed with their education. The result was, of course, that many of them remained perpetually immured in their adolescence.

Certainly this was true of Connolly himself and, in Clive Fisher's account of his amours and alarms, there is no doubt that we find the footprints of a perpetual and often petulant youth. There is a full record here of his philandering, which led to various absurd scenes or confrontations: it seems that people insist upon leading difficult lives when they have very little else to do. He was a man of great intelligence which was consumed in conversation; he was a writer of immense discrimination and judgment, but he consigned those qualities to the obscurity of forgotten reviews.

Perhaps his most enduring claim to attention arises from his editorship of *Horizon* during the Second World War. There are some people who seem ideally suited to the editing of literary magazines — it requires a mixture of low cunning and immense charm — and under his direction that magazine became the single most important vessel of English letters since the days of the great 19th-century periodicals. Connolly published Orwell and Auden and Waugh (the magazine first printed *The Loved One*); he discovered Angus Wilson and Denton Welch.

Yet in the end he tired, as always, of his responsibilities. He drifted away once again. He signed various contracts for the writing of books, few of which were ever fulfilled. He married several times. He lay in the bath, and groaned. He joined *The Sunday Times* as their chief literary reviewer. He was always close to bankruptcy, he drank too much. In fact, prolonged exposure to Connolly's general sloth can prove wearisome; this is a relatively long book, and there may be a case for saying that Clive Fisher takes his subject a little more seriously — and at greater length — than he properly deserves.

But it is the only disadvantage in what is otherwise a splendid biography with a distinctive, sparkling and well-written narrative. Fisher's prose is redolent of the period which it describes and, despite the occasional majestic longueur, it maintains a broad and persuasive momentum. Cyril Connolly could not have been better served. Possibly he would have liked to have written it himself. But of course he would never have had the energy.

Annihilation and erasure

James Woodall

THE ASSAULT
By Reinaldo Arenas
Viking, £15

THE EVENT
By Juan José Saer
Serpent's Tail, £9.99
paperback original

The laconic titles of these two short novels from Latin America belie a stylistic and thematic turbulence that places them outside any semblance of Anglo-American decorum. Yet they couldn't be more different.

Reinaldo Arenas has already achieved some renown with *Before Night Falls*, a haunting memoir of his experiences as a homosexual writer in Fidel Castro's Cuba. His reputation is largely a posthumous one — he died of an Aids-related illness aged 50 in New York in 1990, ten years after he finally left Cuba and persecution behind him. *The Assault* is the fifth book in a quintet he called his "Pentagonia", and the title is quite the best description of this final instalment.

The thrust of the plot is oedipalism in reverse, a ghoulish celebration of matricide, with rape thrown in as a *deus ex machina*. A worker in an unnamed totalitarian state, its apparent indestructibility underlined by the leader being known as the "*Re*president", is in search of his mother: he has seen her gathering wood near the "National Sawmill", which means she is guilty of theft from the State. She thus needs to be eliminated. Her son sets out to kill her.

The inhabitants of this place, resembling Cuba painted by Max Ernst in hallucinogenic mood, have claws instead of hands. They copulate like beasts, and live under mad dictates from on high. There is a running joke throughout about crotches and buttocks: anyone caught looking at these risks "Annihilation and Erasure" forever.

The Represident has already abolished the night — it's now called "not-night" — and orders his subjects to worship him in vile acts of self-abuse and sacrifice. That he is meant to be Castro is beyond doubt, insofar as anyone in the novel can be called a "person".

For those in the know, there are apparently portraits, too, of other Cubans in Arenas's life before he left the island. For the average reader, it is enough just to follow his clawed creatures maiming and slaughtering their way through the novel as clear projections of the author's worst — and most infantile — nightmares.

The ferocity of Arenas's invective does have an exuberant physicality. This is excremental stuff, though the blurb's comparison with Swift and Rabelais goes too far. Buñuel without the wit would be closer to the mark. I just sometimes wished for a joke along the lines of Woody Allen's dictator in his silliest film *Bananas*, who, sporting regulation beard and cigar, decrees that everyone must now "wear their underpants on the outside" — but that would be far too tame here.

There is a serious point to Arenas's satire: *The Assault*'s narrative irrationality, replete with vicious misogyny, should not quite be taken as authorial madness. Arenas wanted rather to represent the consciousness of a wholly politicised world such as Cuba's, where people live in menial terror. But the signs are that Arenas was so eaten up by bitterness by the time he wrote his last book that it is almost impossible for anyone who has not suffered his degree of humiliation to empathise with his vision.

Juan José Saer is a quieter Latin American. *The Event*, first published in his native Argentina in 1988, is set in the 19th century and follows the fortunes of a telepathist who retreats to the pampas. It is a good novel but not easy: Saer's descriptive prose is relentless and his characters are stiff. Altogether it strains with that wordy self-consciousness which so often dulls one's interest when reading the French New Novelists, who have influenced Saer. But after Arenas's slaughterhouse, Saer's pampas come almost as light relief.

Canada's man of destiny

Rachel Cusk

THE CUNNING MAN
By Robertson Davies
Viking, £15.50

For Robertson Davies, a life is a story. It begins with birth; it ends with death. What happens in between is anybody's guess: an adventure, a quest, a catalogue of mystery, a host of revelations both painful and benign. What is certain is that, once begun, Davies's stories are inescapable. The predestination of fiction is here inextricably bound with that of the individual: over both, a controlling intelligence reigns, threading events along strings of meaning, forging links to make human chains of fate.

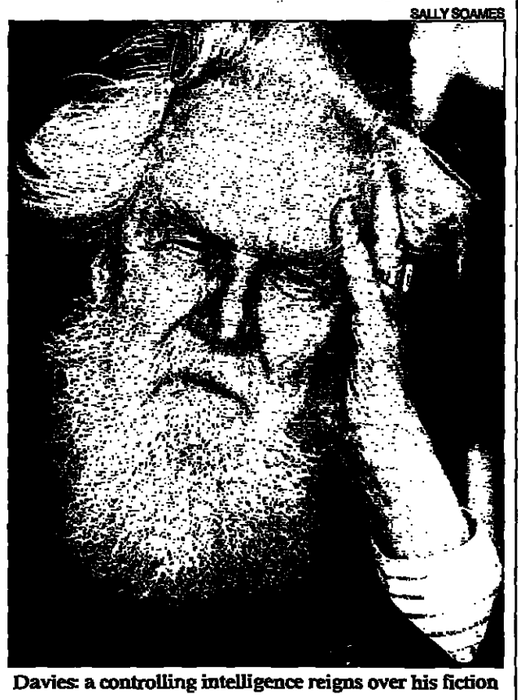
The Cunning Man returns to Deptford territory, in its story of three men whose lives have been locked since boyhood in a mysterious orbit, the dance of their fates a choreography of love, chance, intellect, and of course geography; for this is Canada, where parochialism and aspiration conduct their slow arm wrestle, where the foothold of culture is uncertain, where personal liberty is both vertiginous and desolate. The growth of any sort of art in a new country — once colony, now independent but not really firm on its legs yet — is so wobbly and slow. Apart from politics, business and sport, nothing is very much valued here.

This vacuum enacts its own form of determinism; in it, the life of the mind can grow fetishistic and unself-critical, but its barrenness can also inflict etiolation and flaccidity. A country in its infancy, a country with no memory, is capable of innocent but nonetheless potent cruelties.

Jonathan Hullah, a successful unorthodox doctor famed for his unusual methods of diagnosis, is the "cunning man", the narrator, whose strange story of self-creation and survival contains the more wayward life of his friend Charlie Iredale, and the gentler stagnation of Brocky Gilmartin. As boys, the three were drawn from their disparate backgrounds by the elitist magnet of Colborne College, a private boarding school: they emerge yoked by friendship, their differences refined and focused, and the ensuing pulling and chaffing remains a sometimes faint but still continuous movement beneath the surface of their lives.

Hullah's childhood in the remote northern town of Sioux Lookout, where he became fascinated by the practices of an Indian witch-doctor called Elsie Smoke, contains the germ of his resilience: while his two friends were being preschooled in manners and mores, acquiring the shells of European cultural and religious attitudes in middle-class Salterton, Hullah was in the woods two thousand miles from Toronto. "I liked loneliness and I like it still ... what the woods taught me is still at the heart of my life."

What the woods taught Hullah was to develop his instincts: for beauty, for pain, for right and wrong, and for truth. His approach to knowledge is empirical — "to learn to see what is right in front of one's nose; that is the task and a heavy task it is" — his appetite for art is selective, and his attraction to religion is part psychoanalytical curiosity, part Platonic appreciation. Brocky and Charlie, however, are both enamoured with the flamboyance of representation, Brocky as a brilliant professor of literature who can't seem to find the time to write his own book, and Charlie, more dangerously, as a zealous curate whose High Anglicanism topples over into idolatry.


SALLY SOAMES

Davies: a controlling intelligence reigns over his fiction

Davies's examination of the subject of spiritual theatre, the extravagant bridge made by beauty between worldliness and Godliness, centres around the church of St Aidan ("So High, indeed, that sometimes it seemed that the Roman Catholic Mass was a simplified version of their sung Eucharist"), where the spectacle of worship has become almost a ticket-selling enterprise, and where Charlie Iredale is set upon the course which will lead to his downfall.

The vicar of St Aidan's, Ninian Hobbes, drops dead at the altar after ingesting a Communion wafer; Hullah, a witness to the event, suspects foul play, but is prevented by Charlie from performing an examination: "We were members of two rival priesthoods, he the Man of God and I the Man of Science."

This rivalry intensifies with the success of Hullah's clinic, which lies adjacent to St Aidan's and whose bell outtolls the church's own to signal that a cure for human ills has been found. Hullah's quasi-Freudian approach to diagnosis, his belief that diseases are functions of mind, manifestations of consciousness and character, leads him to stealthy apprehensions of God, "the Divine Reality that we find in our minds ... which is imminent, immemorial, and universal". Charlie, beset by visions and evangelical brain-fever, sees God where God is not and is benighted. Sacked from St Aidan's and banished to a remote rural parish, where there is little in organised religion to ravish the ear or eye, he undergoes a physical and mental breakdown.

Davies's characters are such solitary, rational creatures, so devoted to their human dignity, that his delivery of their indignities is always startling: like Mrs Dempster with her chain, Charlie's vilification is the work of the crowd, a solemn crucifixion of identity.

Indeed, Davies's fascination with saints — individuals who stand apart, washed by populous tides of human love and censure — finds some analogy in his characterisation, as exemplified here by Jonathan Hullah. He is a free-standing man, who loves but never marries, who is witness to many things but culpable of few, and who searches always for some transcendent understanding of the human situation.

Robertson Davies is a writer heavy with magic, and *The Cunning Man* will assuredly place any reader under his spell. Few living novelists can claim erudition, compassion, invention and, hardest of all, inimitability, in the same breath: Davies possesses them all, and must stand out as being among the best.

All Greek to her

Michael Arditti

BLACK SHAWL
By Victor Sage
Secker & Warburg, £9.99
paperback original

GREECE as a literary landscape has long been the scene for the romantic self-awakening of people from more northerly climes. Barbara, a 54-year-old woman who has recently undergone a hysterectomy and Kelly, a half-Irish, half-Sioux jewellery-designer, are the two latest fictional tourists to take an Aegean journey that will transform — and transfigure — their lives.

It is one of the neatest conceits of Victor Sage's novel that, although both are travelling to Thessaloniki to visit the same man, Roger, their paths never cross. Their lives are, however, linked not only through Roger but also Antigone, a young Greek feminist lawyer, as free a spirit as her classical counterpart.

The three women's experiences mirror and balance each other; this is the book's finest achievement. Sage inhabits the female body with total authority, but Sage's male characters seem less authentic. With the exception of Vangelis, a touchingly lovelorn widower, they are either thugs, bores or boys.

As in his first novel, *A Mirror For Larks*, Sage has adopted a continental canvas, carefully placing the novel in the context of Greek politics in 1987-88. His portrait of a scandal-ridden administration strikes many chords in the contemporary British breast. The discussion of domestic politics is, however, unnecessarily opaque; Sage does not so much assume a knowledge in his readers as ignore their ignorance.

Neither does he convince us that this discussion deserves such prominence. Apart from the familiar ironies of young men spouting slogans of liberation while continuing to browbeat women, there is little connection between the individual and the collective struggles. It is the personal, not the national, politics that

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Speculation suggests grand prix decision climbdown

BY OLIVER HOLT

SPECULATION was growing last night that Michael Schumacher and David Coulthard might be restored to the first and second places they won, but were then stripped of, at the Brazilian Grand Prix on Sunday.

Schumacher, in a Benetton-Renault, and Coulthard, in a Williams-Renault, coasted home comfortably clear of Gerhard Berger in third place, but five hours after the race had finished, they were disqualified because of alleged irregularities in the Elf fuel used in their cars, apparently discovered by technicians from the International Motor Sport Federation (FIA).

The FIA announced yesterday that appeals against the decision lodged by Benetton and Williams would take place in Paris on April 13, four days after the next race, the Argentinian Grand Prix. As Elf continued vigorously to protest their innocence, there were rumours that the FIA was preparing for a climbdown.

Both Flavio Briatore, the Benetton managing director, and Frank Williams, the Williams team owner, had threatened to withdraw their cars even before the race last Sunday after they were fined $30,000 (about £20,000) each because of irregularities found in the fuel they had used in qualifying. Neither had different fuel to draw on for the race.

They were persuaded not to carry out their threat but encouraged to appeal once their drivers were disqualified. Both teams are understood to be hopeful of overturning the decision — gaining a judgment that would throw the sport into even greater confusion.

Williams said yesterday that internal tests on the suspect fuel had been carried out by Elf and had proved "satisfactory". "Do they think we would be so stupid as to test batch A — then take batch B with us to the race?" a spokeswoman for the French company said. "It is ridiculous."

Meanwhile, it appears that the mysterious matter of Schumacher's fluctuating weight has been dismissed without penalty. After tipping the scales at 77kg for the official weigh-in on Thursday, the German world champion lost more than five kilos in the space of three days, making him the envy of weight-watchers everywhere and leading to rumours that the initial measurement may have been inaccurate, with the potential to afford him an advantage. The FIA, however, stressed that his car conformed to regulations.

"The less I say about Schumacher's weight loss the better," Max Mosley, the FIA president, said. "What I can say officially is that it is of considerable academic interest to the medical profession."

Letters, page 41

Cambridge juggle with different ideas

John Goodbody reports on a new coach's approach to building on the Boat Race success of 1993 and 1994



The Cambridge crew demonstrates its new-found skill during training. Photograph: Des Jenson

It is one of sport's perennial problems: how do you change a winning combination without destroying the elements that made it successful?

For Cambridge, their victories in the past two Boat Races have brought an expectation of dominance that previously seemed to be the prerogative of Oxford, who had 16 successes and only one defeat between 1976 and 1992.

Although Cambridge have used most of the same training methods as in the past two years, they have practised juggling and even had a session of the oriental martial arts to improve the squad's understanding of its physical potential.

Richard Phelps, the Cambridge president, who will be rowing in his third successive Boat Race, believes his crew's programme has more maturity this year as the university has again become accustomed to success.

"In the first year, there were so many new faces and although we were not used to losing, there was a bit of a lack of confidence in the atmosphere," he said.

"Last year there was the question of whether the victory in 1993 was a one-off or whether we had started a trend. There was also increased pressure as people thought we were going to win.

"We knew we had some talented people and so not to have produced a good crew would have been sacrilegious." The result was considered by many to be one of the most powerful and technically proficient university eights seen in the race.

Robin Williams, the new Cambridge coach, has benefited not only from what he terms "having a good system in place" left by his predecessors, John Wilson and Sean Bowden, but also from the renovation of the Goldie boathouse.

This has allowed the Cambridge squad flexibility in its land training. In previous years, the rowers exercised at the university sports centre in their early morning sessions and had to put out and put back some of the equipment. They can now save 15 minutes a day by leaving their ergometers (rowing machines) in place.

"We are dedicated to time management," Williams said. "An extra 15 minutes of sleep in early morning counts for a lot. The crews here are not only training very hard, they are working academically very hard as well."

For Williams, there are advantages in coming into a successful club but there are also disadvantages. "It was quite daunting at first. If things were being done less well and we were to lose the race, it would land on my shoulders. But I do believe in what I am doing and I do think along the same lines as my predecessors. I have been rewarded by the squad having a lot of confidence in me."

The six months of training focuses on the one race and can be tedious. The juggling was an attempt to introduce variety into the twice-daily sessions. The crew was shown videos to demonstrate that jugglers were not just circus performers. Williams wanted the crew to be multiskilled athletes and to learn what was physically possible. "There is a real mental barrier coping with three things in the air and you have to overcome the fear of doing something wrong."

These lessons are applied to rowing during the long outings. The crew has practised with its eyes shut, with only one hand on the oar and even having the entire eight let go of their blades in unison and then simultaneously recover them. It is important, Williams believes, to acquire this sense of control and rhythm, so that the crew can switch from 100 per cent effort to 100 per cent relaxation, because, in rowing, the 100 per cent effort of the stroke follows the 100 per cent relaxation in the recovery.

A martial arts exhibition showed the crew just how fast hands can actually move. "It was not only variety for their training, it allowed them to think about their bodies," Williams said. The coach also spent time with the two coxes, Russell Slatford and Mark Davies, with Slatford finally getting the Boat Race place. He believes that in a close race a cox can win the event. During the race itself, the cox has to act virtually as the coach and therefore his or her role on the day is crucial.

In training sessions, Cambridge have been tape-recording the cox's instructions. Williams explained: "We then come into the office and listen to the raw words, the tone of the voice, whether they are the right kind of words and whether they are carried with conviction and authority, and whether the words are too repetitive, whether they are focusing too much on aggression and technique."

> 'The crews here not only train hard, they work very hard academically'

He accepts that Oxford have a formidable coaching team. "The presence of Dan Topolski alone will be worth a length or two for Oxford, while there cannot be many people with a greater knowledge of rowing than Penny Chuter.

"But I am hungry and fresh for my first win. Since arriving here I have been completely absorbed by the race. Statistically, I know that Oxford one year will win again — but not this year."

Positions switched in secret workout

HUGH ROUTLEDGE



Cambridge battle against "sea-like" choppy waters in an outing with Goldie, their reserve boat, yesterday

CAMBRIDGE slipped in a secret early-morning outing yesterday, out of sight of the media, and switched the seating positions of their crew (Mike Rosewell writes). They swapped the places of Scott Brownlee, the tough New Zealander, and Mat Parish, the Great Britain international. Parish now sits at No 6 and Brownlee, one of the strongest men in the Light Blue line-up, is at No 4. Many thought earlier in the year that Parish would be the Cambridge stroke man, but in the first line-up he was at No 2. Since then he has been moved steadily down the boat.

Harry Mahon, Cambridge's finishing coach, played down suggestions of panic moves by saying: "It will break the monotony, give them something else to do."

Penny Chuter, the Oxford coach, said: "They are copying us — switching to front-wheel drive." She was referring to the fact that Oxford have placed their strongest man, the American, Laird Reed, in the four position.

Cambridge's later outing involved two rows against their reserve boat, Goldie, a high-class crew. The first, off the Boat Race start, was a two-minute piece against the tide in sea-like conditions.

Oxford were given a remarkably light day, with just one mid-morning outing, paddling at a low rate to Chiswick Steps before returning in similar mode.

NEW CAMBRIDGE LINE-UP: Bow, R Taylor; 2, R Phelps; 3, S Newton; 4, S Brownlee; 5, D Bangert; 6, M Parish; 7, M Banovic; Stroke, M Barnett; Cox, R Slatford.

TODAY'S OUTINGS: Oxford 8am and 11.45am, Cambridge 8am and noon.

McMoRan seeks an identity amid the storms

FROM JOHN HOPKINS
GOLF CORRESPONDENT
IN NEW ORLEANS

IS THE jazz still good in Bourbon Street? Do the narrow streets of the French Quarter, lined by brick buildings with ornate wrought-iron balconies, exert as great a pull as ever? Does the Café du Monde still serve its delicious, slightly bitter coffee and beignets? In these respects all remains well in New Orleans.

The weather, however, in this beguiling Louisiana city in the Deep South is dreadful. Heavy rain wiped out the pro-am of the Freeport McMoRan Classic yesterday and threatened the start of the tournament today. Overnight the spectacular skyline was lit up by jagged flashes of lightning. Claps of thunder rumbled up the Mississippi and ricocheted around the skyscrapers.

It has cast a pall over a tournament that struggles for an identity at the best of times. It is the week before the Masters, but only a handful of the game's leading players are at English Turn, a Jack Nicklaus-designed course that is named after a battle in the War of Independence. It is alleged that the brave forces of George III turned tail and ran at a particular bend in the river — but that is a scurrilous rumour.

Ben Crenshaw, the defending champion, is here and so is José María Olazábal, the Masters champion, who set a course record in the first round last year before finishing second to Crenshaw. Fred Couples is playing; so are Ian Woosnam and Sandy Lyle. Thus, four of the past seven, and five of the past 11 Masters' champions are present. For that matter, David Feherty, resident in the States, and Jesper Parnevik have entered as well.

But Nick Faldo is practising in Orlando, Bernhard Langer is resting and practising at a home he owns in Boca Raton, Florida, and Nick Price and Greg Norman have declined to attend. In fact, few of the top 36 players in the world who competed last week at the Players' Championship have moved on to New Orleans.

In New Orleans last year Crenshaw became the first man to record four rounds in the sixties, putting beautifully. He flew to Augusta, where he finished in the top 20. Olazábal gave stern chase to the Texan, only yielding at the end. He travelled on to the Masters and won. There is something to be said for maintaining a competitive edge the week before a major, as Ian Woosnam proved in 1991 by winning here and then going on to win a green jacket a week later.

Last year, Sam Torrance flew halfway around the world, lost his luggage and finished third. By day he played good golf, by night he gambled on a riverboat. He could not have been happier. Torrance is not at English Turn this year either.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 0171-782 7344

PUBLIC NOTICES

Adams William.
Died 7th November 1994. Born 1912 in West Bromwich but latterly of Padgate, Warrington. Will any descendants of the above having an interest in the estate thereof please contact Robert Davies & Co Solicitors (Ref:E.JS) PO Box 1 21 Bold Street Warrington WA1 1DF.

WESLEYAN ASSURANCE SOCIETY
Head Office
Colmore Circus, Birmingham B4 6AR
Established 1841

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual General Meeting of the above Society will be held at the Head Office on Tuesday, 25 April 1995 at 12.00 noon.

Members will be admitted only if they have attained the age of 16 and premiums on policies held by them have been paid to date. Certificates for attendance, copies of the Annual Report and Accounts for 1994 and Forms of Proxy for members unable to attend are available on application to Head Office.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

D B REED F.C.I.I.
SECRETARY

30 March 1995

LEGAL NOTICES

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity - North Devon Holiday Home for Deprived Children
The Charity Commissioners have made a Scheme for this charity. A copy can be seen for the next month at William Fancher2 Solicitors, 8 Bell Yard, London, WC2A 2JU or a copy can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to St Alban's House, 57/60 Haymarket, London, SW1Y 4QX quoting reference number AAA-258898A/1-CDrLm1).

LEGAL NOTICES

No.001820 of 1995
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF RODAMCO PROPERTY PLC - and - IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on 21st March 1995 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the capital of the above-named Company from £56,700,000 to £1,260,000. AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before Mr Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL on Wednesday the 12th day of April 1995. ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of capital should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose. A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same. Dated 28th March 1995. LINKLATERS & PAINES (CT/JL) Barrington House 59-67 Gresham Street London EC2V 7JA Solicitors for the above-named Company.

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
DERRICKBEST LIMITED
(IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
I, Margaret Elizabeth Mills of Ernst & Young, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EU hereby given notice that on 21 March 1995 I was appointed liquidator of the above named company.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the creditors of the above company are required, on or before 5 May 1995 to send in their full names and addresses and full particulars of their debts or claims to me and, if so required by notice in writing from me, are, personally or by their solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
Dated: 22/3/95
M E Mills
Joint Liquidator
N.B. All known creditors have been or will be paid in full, but if any persons consider they have claims against the company they should send in full details forthwith.

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
IN THE HIGH COURT IN COMPULSORY LIQUIDATION NO 3634 OF 1994. RE: TSAR COMPUTER PROJECTS LIMITED.
We, Maurice Charles Withall of Grant Thornton House, Melton Street, London NW1 2EP and Patrick Bernard Harrington of Morison Stoneham, Morlston House, 76 Springfield Road, Chelmsford, Essex, give notice that we have been duly appointed and certified by the Department of Trade as joint liquidators of the above-named company. All persons having in their possession any of the effects of the company must deliver them to us and all debts due to the company must be paid to us. Creditors who have not yet proved their debts must forward their proofs of debt to Morlston House, 76 Springfield Road, Chelmsford, Essex. DATED THIS 9 DAY OF MARCH 1995. MC Withall and PB Harrington Joint Liquidators.

No. 001606 of 1995
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION & DATA PLC AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on the 13th day of March 1995 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the cancellation of the share premium account of the above-named Company
AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before Mr Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London, WC2A 2LL on Wednesday the 12th day of April 1995
ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said cancellation of the share premium account should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose
A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same
DATED this 30th day of March 1995
Olswang
90 Long Acre
London WC2E 9TT
0171 208 8888
(Ref: RJW)
Solicitors for the Above-Named Company

In the Matter of O.C.S. Software Ltd
and in the Matter of the Insolvency Act and Rules 1986.
In accordance with Rule 4.106, I, Melvyn Julian Carter of Carter Backer Winter, Hill House, Highgate Hill, London, N19 5UU, give notice that on 16 March 1995 I was appointed Liquidator by resolutions of members.
Notice is also given that the creditors of the above named company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before the 28 April 1995 to send in their full christian and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims and the names and addresses of their Solicitors if any), to the undersigned Melvyn Julian Carter of Hill House, Highgate Hill, London, N19 5UU, Liquidator of the said company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution.
Note: This notice is purely formal. All creditors have been or will be paid in full.
Dated: 23 March 1995
M J Carter
Liquidator

No 001174 of 1995
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF PREMIER LAND PLC
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 22 March 1995 confirming (i) the reduction of the capital of the above-named Company from £15,000,000 to £12,000,000 and (ii) the cancellation of the share premium account of the said Company of £2,664,470.58 and the Minute approved by the Court showing with respect to the capital of the Company as altered the several particulars required by the above-mentioned Act were registered by the Registrar of Companies on 24 March 1995.
Darwin Leighton
Adelaide House, London Bridge, London EC4R 9HA.
Ref: JL/PS11/102
Solicitors
for the above-named Company

D & S G SERVICES LIMITED
T/A TOWNSEND GAMMELL
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above-named company will be held at Haines Watts, 4-8 Tabernacle Street, London EC2A 4LU on 12 April 1995 at 11.30 a.m. for the purposes mentioned in sections 99 to 101 of the said Act
A list of the names and addresses of the company's creditors may be inspected free of charge at Haines Watts, 4-8 Tabernacle Street, London EC2A 4LU on the two business days preceding the date of the meeting stated above.
DATED: 22.3.95
By order of the Board
J.GAMMELL Director/Secretary.

ASHFORD ROAD LIMITED formerly known as DATELINE FORWARDING SERVICES LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above-named company will be held at: The Chapel, Brunel University, Runnymede Campus, Coopers Hill Lane, Englefield Green, Egham, Surrey TW20 0JZ on 6 April 1995 at 11.00 a.m. for the purposes mentioned in sections 99 to 101 of the said Act.
A list of the names and addresses of the company's creditors may be inspected free of charge at Haines Watts, 4-8 Tabernacle Street, London EC2A 4LU and at Sterling House, 165/175 Farnham Road, Slough SL1 4UP on the two business days preceding the date of the meeting stated above.
DATED: 22.3.95
By Order of the Board
S.DIAS Director

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES
TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THIS SECTION PLEASE TELEPHONE
0171-782 7344
FAX: 0171-782 7827
Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.

A close season open to debate

Brian Clarke examines the murky waters surrounding new regulations that have arisen around coarse fishing's spring break

The new trout fishing season began officially in most parts of England and Wales this month. At the same time, the most important changes to the regulation of coarse fishing this century came into effect.

Given that so many rivers have been bank-high or worse, the early prospects for many trout anglers may not be good. The prospects for the coarse angler who wants to take advantage of the new relaxations in fisheries laws are — well, it is difficult to say what they are. Indeed, it is so difficult to say where coarse fishermen are now that rather than risk added confusion I will quote the official words:

Last June 28 the National Rivers Authority (NRA) said it planned to bring some order to the mish-mash of by-laws and regulations that had grown over the principles of fishery regulation established long ago.

The NRA said it was proposing to the Ministry of Agriculture, "that a harmonised statutory close season for coarse fishing should apply to all rivers, streams, canals and drains in England and Wales. The period of the close season would be from March 15 to June 15 inclusive each year, representing for the first time a consistent approach across England and Wales". At the same time the NRA proposed another radical move designed to improve consistency: to abolish the close season for coarse fishing on lakes in England and Wales, wherever the owners or lessees of such lakes wished angling to continue.

So far, so good. Except that on March 10 this year, the NRA said: "The close season arrangements on canals has not been changed and the statutory close season still applies to all canals in the Midlands, Wales, the south-east and on some canals in Yorkshire. There will continue to be no statutory close season on canals in the south-west or most canals in northern England. A close season on all other waters such as lakes, ponds and reservoirs will be at the discretion of fisheries owners, except on the Norfolk Broads and some Sites of Special Scientific Interest." No help was available on where these sites might be.

> 'Both parties wanted to ruffle as few feathers as possible'

So there we have it: all the other inconsistencies we had before plus a few new ones for good measure. Little wonder, either, that I am not clear what the outlook for coarse anglers is. The only certainty is that anyone wanting to go fishing today would be advised to carry maps of England and Wales, a divining rod, several thousand fishery telephone numbers and a lawyer.

It would be unfair to blame the NRA for all of this. When it came into being in 1989, the NRA inherited from the diverse bodies before it a set of fishery regulations that were wildly inconsistent.

The NRA's fisheries group has courageously — I think that is the word — bitten a range of the resulting bullets. In the process it has opened itself to pressure from those who see money to be made. Many owners of commercial fisheries and tackle outlets and most of the coarse angling media wanted the close season abolished or greatly reduced because no fishing means reduced revenues.

For his part, Michael Jack, the relevant minister, has declined to extend the close season to all canals, partly because to have done so would have upset those able to fish the canals that remain open. He has added a few more exceptions because of intense — and quite proper — lobbying of environmental groups.

In other words, we are in the mess we are because, to a large degree, both parties wanted to ruffle as few feathers as possible in a situation in which someone is bound to be unhappy. There are two immediate results from what has happened so far, beyond the embarrassment for the NRA.

The first is that anglers in some parts of the country still have greater fishing opportunity than anglers elsewhere — another anomaly the NRA hopes to resolve — even though all coarse anglers pay a common license fee.

The second, and much the most regrettable, is that in the move to legalise coarse fishing in the spring, an important principle has been lost to fishery regulation. It is that gravid or spawning fish should not be harassed. The traditional close season was chosen precisely because it covers the spawning seasons of most coarse species.

Vast numbers of anglers, as well as the National Federation of Anglers itself, regret this and the erosion of sporting principle it brings with it. The question that is bound to be asked at the start of a new trout season is that if commercial lake fisheries may stay open for coarse fish, why should there be a close season that applies to trout in lakes? The principle of protecting gravid fish by law is precisely the same and has already been conceded.

Pressure to open lakes containing brown trout can now be expected from commercial trout fisheries and the thin end of the wedge, which has already found a niche, will be driven deeper. Who knows where it will end?

What a way to start a new season.

Crystal Spirit bypasses Ascot

By Julian Muscat

CRYSTAL SPIRIT, a live Grand National candidate, is to miss the Peregrine Handicap Chase on Saturday and head straight for Aintree. The Ascot option falls just seven days before the big race and Ian Balding, who trains the horse, is reluctant to risk the eight-year-old with the National in sight.

Crystal Spirit will one of the freshest horses to face the National starter. Last seen in action when defeating Southolt at Ascot in January, he goes well after a break, as he demonstrated when beating Bradbury Star on his seasonal reappearance at Cheltenham in October.

"He will work again on Saturday and Jamie Osborne is due to school him on Tuesday." Balding said yesterday. "He is very well. I think he goes to the National with a good chance. He is a safe jumper without being over bold, which is what you want for Aintree." Osborne was aboard on the two occasions Crystal Spirit has visited the winner's enclosure this term.

The horse is best served by decent ground. Given those conditions, he looks attractively weighted with 10st 4lb, although his owner, Paul Mellon, will not be at Aintree to see him run. "Mr Mellon told me that he used to get jet-lag 20 years ago." Balding said.

"He does not think he'd enjoy travelling from his home in Virginia so I hope the race is transmitted live to the United States. He is getting quite excited about it."

Without winning the National, Mellon, 87, has raced countless horses of merit, most notably the 1971 Derby winner, Mill Reef. He will be hoping to strike a blow for the older generation: the late Jim Joel was 92 when netting the prize for the first time with Maori Venture in 1987.

If Balding is bracing himself for the thrill, Paul Nicholls has had to contend with major disappointment. Nicholls was yesterday forced to concede defeat in his efforts to rejuvenate Deep Bramble after the horse's poor effort in the Cheltenham Gold Cup, when he was pulled up soon after half way.

"He pulled some muscles in his shoulder and neck at Cheltenham," the trainer said. "We have been trying to get him right ever since. He'll come right again, but not in time for Aintree." Deep Bramble, a 20-1 chance before his withdrawal, is to be aimed at the Whitbread Gold Cup at Sandown on April 29.

Nuaffe, trained in Ireland by Pat Fahy, was another casualty in the Gold Cup. The ten-year-old, renowned for his less-than-fluent jumping, came to grief at the ninth fence and has since undergone extensive schooling. "He is in great shape," Fahy declared. "We've been teaching him to jump from his hocks like a show jumper and he has taken to it well." L'Escargot, in 1977, was the last Irish-trained winner of the National.

An unsettled weather forecast has not dampened supporters of Young Hustler. Although the ground at Aintree remains on the soft side, Young Hustler attracted interest with Ladbrokes yesterday and is now a 10-1 shot from 14-1. Meanwhile, William Hills trimmed Minnehoma, last year's winner, to 6-1 from a point longer, and the David Nicholson-trained Dubacilla to 8-1 from 10-1.

The Grand National bid of Tsuyoshi Tanaka, the Japanese jockey booked for The Committee, was sanctioned yesterday by the Jockey Club in the form of a temporary licence.

The British Horseracing Board (BHB) is soliciting ideas from all and sundry on how the sport might celebrate the millenium. The government has established a Millenium Commission with funds of £1.6 billion from proceeds of the national lottery.

MARTIN LYNCH



Deep Bramble, who misses the National because of injury, will be aimed at the Whitbread next month

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: NICKLE JOE
(3.30 Chepstow)
Next best: Angelo's Double
(3.00 Chepstow)

Jockeys' title betting halted after Dunwoody rumours

SPECULATION was rife yesterday that the champion National Hunt jockey, Richard Dunwoody, is about to split with leading trainer Martin Pipe.

Dunwoody has missed several rides for Pipe in recent weeks and William Hill has decided to suspend betting on the jockeys' championship after taking a string of substantial wagers on his closest rival, Adrian Maguire.

However, both Pipe and Dunwoody poured cold water on the rumours when questioned at Worcester yesterday. "I haven't heard the rumours and I know nothing," Pipe said. "Richard's the one to ask. Nothing has been discussed about next season. There was never any agreement between Richard and myself and whoever wants to leave can."

Another story circulating is that Dunwoody, 31, will retire if Minnehoma wins the Grand National for the second successive year. But the champion jockey said: "There is a lot of rubbish being talked. Other than that I have absolutely no comment to make."

Talk of a break-up between Pipe and Dunwoody first surfaced at the end of Cheltenham Festival week and was sparked off again yesterday when William Hill reported powerful support for Maguire.

William Hill spokesman, Graham Sharpe, said yesterday: "We've suspended betting on the jockeys' championship because of a considerable sum of money wagered on Maguire this morning. We were taking large amounts of money. Maguire was 6-5 with Dunwoody at 13-8 on this morning, but Maguire was then backed down to evens. We continued taking money at that price until a number of four-figure bets started being staked.

"We suspected something might be going on concerned with Dunwoody and decided to suspend the book. It will remain closed until a reason emerges."

Speculation over the split arose initially when Jonothan Lower was preferred to Dunwoody for the Triumph Hurdle winner Kissair. Pipe's only Cheltenham Festival success.

It is understood that several of Pipe's owners have chosen to remain loyal to Lower and other jockeys who deputised for Dunwoody when he served a 30-day ban for an offence of careless riding and intentional interference at Uttoxeter.



Dunwoody: no comment

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Worcester

Going: good to soft (good in back straight)

2.00 (2m hdle) 1, Dancing Sam (A Thornton, 3-1 jt-fav); 2, Bonnifer (5-1); 3, Pete The Parson (9-1 jt-fav). 21 ran NR: Dancing Barefoot. 1¼l, sh hd T Forster. Tote: £4.00; £1.70, £1.80, £1.70. DF: £5.20. Tncst: £6.90. CSF: £17.58

2.30 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Ballet Royal (M Appleby, 6-1); 2, Silver Standard (10-1); 3, Tactical Mission (11-2). Foots Errand 7-2 fav. 11 ran. 2½l, hd H Manners. Tote: £7.60, £1.90, £4.30, £1.90. DF: £23.90. Tncst: £64.70. CSF: £58.04. Tricast: £317.27

3.00 (2m 7f ch) 1, General Wolfe (R Dunwoody, 9-4 fav; Private Handicapper's top rating); 2, Buckleight (7-1); 3, Impeccable Timing (14-1); 4, Magsood (16-1) 17 ran. NR: Irish Stamp. Sh hd, 20l. T Forster. Tote: £2.50, £1.40, £2.50, £2.10. £3.00. DF: £9.10. Tncst: £69.30. CSF: £17.66. Tricast: £171.04.

3.30 (2m hdle) 1, Glanmarin (A S Smith, 5-2); 2, Slew Man (4-6 fav); 3, Zarcon (9-1) 11 ran. 3l, 7l. K Morgan. Tote: £3.70; £1.40, £1.00, £2.00. DF: £1.80. Tncst: £3.30. CSF: £4.41

4.00 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Stop The Waller (N Williamson, 13-8 fav); 2, Lady Ghislaine (4-1); 3, Belafonte (20-1). 5 ran. 15l, 25l. M Barnes. Tote: £2.20; £1.10. £2.00. DF: £2.80. CSF: £7.60

4.30 (3m hdle) 1, Jathib (S Keighley, 10-1); 2, Dakota Girl (10-1); 3, Sparkling Cone (3-1 fav). 4, Mindyerownbusiness. 16 ran. NR: Stormtracker. 7l, 1½l. C Williams. Tote: £15.60, £2.30, £1.70, £1.70. £5.10. DF: £50.10. Tncst: £81.70. CSF: £110.55. Tricast: £365.23

5.00 (2m flat) 1, The Angel Leak (L Reynolds, 7-1); 2, Miss Breckrell (15-8 fav); 3, Gemma's Wager (20-1). 19 ran. NR: Ethel's Dream, Privilegedtoserve, Vendee Bl, 2½l. M Pipe. Tote: £9.20; £4.20, £1.40, £3.50. DF: £9.40. Tncst: £60.30. CSF: £20.42

Placepot: £21.30. Quadpot: £4.50.

Lingfield Park

Going: standard

2.10 (7f) 1, Bencher Q C (L Dettori, 10-11 fav; Our Newmarket Correspondent's nap); 2, Shen Yang (5-2); 3, Alute (12-1) 9 ran. Sh hd, 2½l. J Gosden. Tote: £2.00; £1.00, £1.60. £3.10. DF: £2.70. CSF: £3.99

2.40 (2m) 1, Maradonna (M Fenton, 15-8); 2, Arc Bright (11-8 fav); 3, Lon Isa (8-11). 7 ran. Sh hd, dist. J White. Tote: £2.60; £2.10, £1.70. DF: £2.60. CSF: £4.76. Arc Bright finished first but after a stewards' inquiry was placed second

3.10 (1m 2f) 1, El Arrevido (R Cochrane, 9-4); 2, Zacarcon (7-4 fav); 3, Brave Spy (4-1). 7 ran. Nk, 4l. N Walker. Tote: £2.20; £2.10, £1.30. DF: £1.70. CSF: £6.59

3.40 (1m 4f) 1, Bag Of Tricks (D Harrison, 4-1); 2, Modest Hope (11-8 fav); 3, Ginger Jim (12-1). 7 ran. 5l, 2½l. S Dow. Tote: £4.40; £2.10, £1.60. DF: £4.40. CSF: £9.36.

4.10 (1m) 1, Eastleigh (L Dettori, 4-1); 2, Hedwick (5-1); 3, Dogpost (9-4 fav). 8 ran. 1¼l, sh hd. R Hollinshead. Tote: £6.00; £2.20, £1.40, £1.10. DF: £28.50. CSF: £22.53. Tricast: £49.57

4.40 (6f) 1, Bon Secret (S Sanders, 2-1 fav); 2, Polar Frontier (11-4); 3, Exclusive Assembly (10-1). 9 ran. 3l, 4l. T Naughton. Tote: £4.00; £1.40, £1.10, £3.70. DF: £3.60. Trio: £21.80. CSF: £8.18. Tricast: £40.02.

Placepot: £3.10. Quadpot: £2.40.

McCoy banned

ANTHONY McCOY was given a two-day whip ban (April 11 and 12) after riding Tactical Mission to finish third behind Ballet Royal and Silver Standard in the Grandstand Conditional Jockeys Handicap Hurdle at Worcester yesterday.

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LEICESTER

THUNDERER

2.20 Dankeston — 3.50 SHINEROLLA (nap)
2.50 Kinnegad Kid — 4.20 Elation
3.20 Russian Heroine — 4.50 Parthian Springs
5.20 Gadge

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 2.50 KINNEGAD KID.

Our Newmarket Correspondent:
2.20 DANKESTON.(nap). 5.20 Gadge.

GOING: SOFT — DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE — SIS

2.20 KNIGHTON MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES
(2-Y-O: £2,821: 5f 2yd) (8 runners)

101 (8) CABCHARGE STRIKER (Computer Cab Racing Club) M Channon 9-0 . R Hughes –
102 (7) DANKESTON (L Gauci) M Bell 9-0 . M Hills –
103 (4) DIGWANA (M Evans) T Jones 9-0 . R Perham –
104 (1) EBONY BOY (P Lambert) J Wharton 9-0 . J Williams –
105 (2) KENNY DAVIS (J Group Ltd) Mrs H Parrott 9-0 . T Sprake –
106 (3) MONSIEUR CULSYTH (Forsyth Cully Racing) J Berry 9-0 . S Carter –
107 (6) PASSION FOR LIFE (D Waters) G Lewis 9-0 . Paul Eddery –
108 (5) CAPILAND PRINCESS (H Coths) D Hayde Jones 8-9 . A Darley –

BETTING: 6-4 Dankeston, 7-2 Monsieur Culsyth, 5-1 Cabcharge Striker, 6-1 Passion For Life, 12-1 Capiland Princess, 16-1 Ebony Boy. 20-1 others.

1994: PRINCELY HUSH 9-0 M Hills (6-1) M Bell 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

CABCHARGE STRIKER (Foaled May 30). First known foal by Rambo Dancer, dam, half-sister to several winners, including useful sprinter Lochonica. DANKESTON (Feb 25, cost IR37,000gns). Half-brother to Elmaamul to several winners, including Mawsuff, dual 7f winner; dam fair 1m 2f winner. EBONY BOY (Apr 19, 11,000gns) Half-brother to Sayf El Arab to Russian Heroine, triple 5f juvenile winner. KENNY DAVIS (May 27, 4,200gns) Half-brother by Mazaad to Ruby Snoos, 1m winner at four years and Jimmy The Skunk, multiple 5f/6f winner. MONSIEUR CULSYTH (Apr 16). Second foal by Mon Tresor; dam placed over 1m-1m 2f. PASSION FOR LIFE (Mar 21, 5,200gns) Half-brother by Charnwi to three winners, including fair multiple sprint winner Very Dicey. No selection

2.50 HARBOROUGH FILLIES HANDICAP (£3,732: 1m 8yd) (10 runners)

201 (6) 252/134-0 BASSMAAT 85 (C,BF,G) (Total Asset) Mrs L Piggott 4-10-0 . G Milligan (7) 80
202 (9) 40621-0 MISTY SILKS 37 (CD,G,S) (P Axon) M Ryan 5-9-11 . A Clark 85
203 (7) 6000-30 BELLEMINETTE 29 (D,F,G) (Mrs J Mihalop) D Haydn Jones 4-8-8 . A Mackay 80
204 (4) 053-005 GIGGLESWICK GIRL 12 (G) (M Bishop) M Channon 4-8-7 . Pat Eddery 81
205 (10) 226000- KIS GIRL 184 (I Stewart) S Gollings 4-8-7 . T Quinn 86
206 (5) 423310 PROFIT RELEASE 29 (D,F,G) (G Bailey Ltd) M Johnston 4-8-7 . D Holland 80
207 (8) 111121 KINNEGAD KID 12 (D,G,S) (J Wallace) R Ingram 6-8-3 . D Wright (3) 88
208 (3) 000020- CELTIC CEILIDH 149 (Mrs M Williams) J Wharton 4-8-2 . P Robinson 80
209 (2) 050020- FABRIANA 17J (S) (D Barrow) T Naughton 5-8-2 . D Harrison 80
210 (1) 210/360- FORGETFUL 131J (The Equus Club) D Burchell 6-7-7 . R Price –

Long handicap: Forgetful 7-5

BETTING: 2-1 Kinnegad Kid, 9-2 Bassmaat, 6-1 Belleminette, 8-1 Profit Release, Giggleswick Girl, 10-1 Celtic Ceilidh, Misty Silks. 12-1 others.

1994: CLARIFICATION 4-8-1 P Robinson (17-2) J Wharton 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

BASSMAAT best effort last term beat Triple Joy 1½l in 20-runner apprentices' maiden here (7f, good). MISTY SILKS best effort last term beat Leomova head in 18-runner course and distance handicap (good to soft) BELLEMINETTE 6¼l 3rd of 8 to Flowing Ocean in handicap at Southwell (AW, 7f) penultimate start. PROFIT RELEASE beat Eastleigh 3½l in 12-runner Lingfield seller (AW, 1m) penultimate start. KINNEGAD KID best Tu Opes neck in 12-runner handicap at Wolverhampton (AW, 1m 1f 79yd). CELTIC CEILIDH head 2nd of 19 to Happy Hostage in course and distance claimer (good to soft) penultimate start. FABRIANA head 2nd of 15 to Dia George in conditions race at Lingfield (AW, 7f 140yd) penultimate start. Selection: MISTY SILKS

3.20 BURTON OVERY SELLING STAKES
(3-Y-O: £2,736: 5f 218yd) (18 runners)

301 (7) 4-16222 BAILEYS SUNSET 35 (F,G) (G Bailey Ltd) M Johnston 9-5 . W R Swinburn 87
302 (18) 06100-0 CASPER'S RISK 5 (B,D,G) (J Gilbertson) D Nicholls 9-5 . Alex Greaves 83
303 (17) 243354 PRINCE RUDOLF 10 (B,D,G) (J Collings) Mrs N Macauley 9-5 . J Reid 77
304 (12) 050-644 SCISSOR RIDGE 12 (G) (T Mitchell) J Budgar 9-5 . G Duffield 90
305 (4) 55- ASTON MANOR 182 (R Hannon) R Hannon 9-0 . Pat Eddery 82
306 (10) 2-50214 DOWDENCY 36 (G) (P Tilt) J Pickering 9-0 . N Carlisle 74
307 (14) 0-36014 JOYFUL TIMES 31 (D,BF,G) Mrs N Macauley 9-0 . Amanda Sanders (7) 62
308 (8) 61510-0 NOOR EL HOUDAH 14 (D,F,S) (B Nielsen) J Berry 9-0 . G Carter 86
309 (5) 400040- RUPERT'S PRINCESS 154 (S) (F Sansbury) M Hazlen-Ellis 9-0 . Stephen Davies 87
310 (15) 00-5302 RUSSIAN HEROINE 10 (F,S) (Nouvesmiac Partnership) M Johnston 9-0 . D Holland 89
311 (2) 000- SIMPLY SIMON 128 (V) (T Beston) K Burke 9-0 . R Cochrane –
312 (9) 000-30 SPEEDY SNAPS PRIDE 22 (P Cundell) P Cundell 8-0 . W Newnes 65
313 (16) 50-5234 BRETTON PRINCESS 43 (J Graham) R Hollinshead 8-9 . W Ryan 64
314 (13) 06-0 GOVERNOR'S LASS 26 (Mrs G Smith) S Dow 8-9 . T Quinn 86
315 (11) 0-0 INDIAN RHAPSODY 8 (J Gold) M Channon 8-9 . R Hughes 77
316 (3) 4000-26 JERSEY BELLE 43 (D Pook) P Makin 8-9 . L Dettori 83
317 (6) 654 LOTTIES BID 48 (S Reed) P Felgate 8-9 . A Darley 70
318 (11) 0300-6 TISH 10 (M Kelly) A Smith 8-9 . M Birch 60

BETTING: 7-2 Aston Manor, 5-1 Baileys Sunset, 6-1 Russian Heroine, 7-1 Casper's Risk, 8-1 Dowdency, 10-1 Jersey Belle. 12-1 Noor El Houdah, 14-1 others.

1994: ADMIRALS FLAME 9-5 W Woods (5-2 fav) C Wall 13 ran

FORM FOCUS

BAILEYS SUNSET 1¾l 2nd of 11 to Tyrian Purple in seller at Lingfield (AW, 6f) SCISSOR RIDGE about 6l 4th of 11 to David James' Girl in handicap at Wolverhampton (AW, 7f). DOWDENCY beat Beeat Wolverhampton short neck in 10-runner seller at Wolverhampton (AW 7f) penultimate start with BRETTON PRINCESS (5lb better off) 7¾l 4th and JERSEY BELLE (5lb better off) 4l 6th. JOYFUL TIMES beat DOWDENCY short-head in 13-runner seller at Southwell (AW, 6f) penultimate start with LOTTIES BID (5lb better off) short-head and 3¼l 4th RUSSIAN HEROINE 5l 2nd of 13 to Nadwasy in seller at Southwell (AW, 5f) with PRINCE RUDOLF 2¾l 4th and TISH 2½l 6th. INDIAN RHAPSODY 16l last of 12 to Blomberg in maiden at Doncaster (7f, good to firm) JERSEY BELLE 5l 2nd of 6 to Hoist in Lingfield maiden (AW, 6f) penultimate start. Selection: BAILEYS SUNSET

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Runs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
J Gosden	17	71	23.9	Pat Eddery	27	117	23.1
J Dunlop	16	83	19.3	W Carson	22	116	19.0
G Wragg	5	28	17.9	L Dettori	26	149	17.4
R Hannon	26	146	17.8	C Hodgson	4	23	17.4
M Johnston	6	34	17.6	T Quinn	19	121	15.7
P Murphy	3	20	15.0	J Reid	14	89	15.7

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 . B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing. J if jumps. F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF, — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

3.50 GADSBY HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £5,796: 5f 2yd) (8 runners)

401 (8) 456310- ENDLESS WAVE 159 (D,S) (Mrs M Carey) M Bell 9-7 . M Hills 89
402 (3) 60129-2 DOUBLE QUICK 7 (D,G,S) (3rd Middleham Partners) M Johnston 9-5 . D Holland 96
403 (4) 31- MUSICA 197 (D,G) (J Knight) M Channon 9-0 . R Hughes 89
404 (7) 131331 PORTEND 7 (D,G) (D Bowring) S Bowring 8-12 (7ex) . C Teague (7) 98
405 (5) 502124- TOTAL STRANGER 187 (D,F) (Total Asset) Mrs L Piggott 8-6 . K Darley 92
406 (6) 452305- JO MAXIMUS 209 (J Kelly) S Dow 8-5 . T Quinn 88
407 (2) 24-2230 C-YER-SIMMIE 7 (D,G) (D Copperthall) R Hollinshead 7-7 . N Carlisle 90
408 (1) 045-3 SHINEROLLA 7 (Mrs A Iles) Mrs J Ramsden 7-7 . J Quinn 90

BETTING: 5-2 Shinerolla, 11-4 Double Quick, 3-1 Portend, 6-1 Musica, 8-1 Total Stranger, 12-1 Endless Wave. 14-1 others.

1994: CAVERS YANGOUS 8-1 M Roberts (5-2 fav) M Johnston 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

ENDLESS WAVE beat Kaiya 1¼l in 8-runner conditions race at Warwick (5f, soft) penultimate start. MUSICA beat Mezalah head in 18-runner maiden at Beverley (5f, good). PORTEND beat DOUBLE QUICK (6lb better off) 2½l in 14-runner handicap at Doncaster (5f, good) with SHINEROLLA (9lb better off) head 3rd and C-YER-SIMMIE (9lb better off) about 12¼l 12th. TOTAL STRANGER about 1l 4th of 11 to Red Dart in nursery at Redcar (5f, good to soft). JO MAXIMUS 9¾l 5th of 14 to Kabil in nursery at Kempton (6f, good). C-YER-SIMMIE best recent effort head 2nd of 6 to Hannah's Usher in handicap at Wolverhampton (AW, 5f). Selection: DOUBLE QUICK (nap)

4.20 LANGHAM MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: 1m 3f 183yd) (6 runners)

501 (3) 00- ARCTIC CHARMER 158 (S Khaled) J Dunlop 9-0 . W Carson –
502 (6) BLUE SMOKE (Mrs B Faccino) B McMahon 9-0 . M Wigham –
503 (4) 00- ELATION 156 (HRH Prince Faisal Salman) P Cole 9-0 . T Quinn 80
504 (2) 0540- LORD JIM 170 (Mrs S Thomas) Miss G Kellaway 9-0 . R Cochrane 98
505 (5) 50520- NOONDAY GUN 160 (K Hagsen) R Hannon 9-0 . B Rouse 98
506 (1) 0- TEMPENNY 205 (W Gredley) G Rimmer 8-9 . M Rimmer –

BETTING: 6-4 Noonday Gun, 5-2 Lord Jim, 7-2 Elation, 6-1 Arctic Charmer, 10-1 Blue Smoke. 25-1 Tempenny.

1994: ZUBOON 9-0 W Carson (10-11 fav) J Dunlop 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

ELATION 17l 7th of 16 to Final Appearance in maiden here (1m, good to soft) with ARCTIC CHARTER 14l 11th. LORD JIM 29l 12th of 19 to Mishnguard in maiden here (1m, good) with ARCTIC CHARMER 21 13th. NOONDAY GUN 1l 2nd of 15 to Double Eclipse in maiden at Pontefract (1m 2f, soft) penultimate start. TEMPENNY 23l 14th of 15 to Altaasellah in maiden at Lingfield (7f, good). Selection: NOONDAY GUN

4.50 SIMON DE MONTFORT MAIDEN STAKES
(£4,206: 1m 1f 218yd) (16 runners)

601 (5) 0/ CATEMPO 78J (Now We Are Five) S Dow 5-10-0 . Stephen Davies –
602 (14) SUPER SHARP 153J (M Penney) H Oliver 7-10-0 . T Ives –
603 (14) CHOCOLATE CHARLIE (R Waters) R Charlton 4-9-13 . Paul Eddery –
604 (6) 4- ISMENO 232 (Mrs A Upcoft) S Dow 4-9-13 . T Quinn 89
605 (9) JUMBO 33J (T Long) J Jenkins 4-9-13 . J Williams –
606 (7) 44- PARTHIAN SPRINGS 205 (Hesmonds Stud) J Gosden 4-9-13 . Pat Eddery 88
607 (16) 03- RUSHAWAY 180 (A Solomons) R Hannon 4-9-13 . R Perham 89
608 (3) 50- LEGENDRA 269 (Mrs L Murphy) P Murphy 5-9-9 . R Waterfield (7) 79
609 (2) 6 TIP THE DOVE 44 (C Price) R Price 6-9-9 . T Sprake –
610 (13) 05- CRESPO 154 (Sheikh Mohammed) J Fanshawe 3-8-8 . O Harrison 84
611 (12) HE KNOWS THE RULES (J Henwood) M Channon 3-8-8 . R Hughes –
612 (15) MOTAKABBER (Sheikh Ahmed Al-Maktoum) J Gosden 3-8-8 . L Dettori –
613 (10) 0- ORCHESTRA STALL 184 (D Sieff) J Dunlop 3-8-8 . K Darley –
614 (11) 53- SALAMAN 148 (Lady Cohen) J Dunlop 3-8-8 . W Carson 98
615 (8) 00- BOUNDLESS 152 (R Harding) B Meehan 3-8-3 . B Doyle 71
616 (1) 00- RAY OF HOPE 155 (A Oppenheimer) G Wragg 3-8-3 . M Hills 78

BETTING: 3-1 Parthian Springs, 4-1 Chocolate Charlie, 6-1 Salaman, Ismeno, 8-1 Crespo. 10-1 Rushaway, 12-1 Ray Of Hope, Orchestra Stall. 14-1 others.

1994: WAYNE COUNTY 4-10-0 E Guest (11-2) D Thom 15 ran

FORM FOCUS

ISMENO 4½l 4th of 20 to Maidment in maiden at Sandown (1m 2f, good) PARTHIAN SPRINGS about 5½l 4th of 17 to Sadler's Walk in maiden over course and distance (good to firm) RUSHAWAY neck and 8l 3rd of 12 to Uncharted Waters in maiden at Goodwood (1m 2f, good to firm). CRESPO 4l 5th of 13 to Baltic Boy in maiden at Nottingham (1m, good) ORCHESTRA STALL 23l 17th of 19 to Count Of Honour in maiden at Newmarket (1m, good) SALAMAN 2½l 3rd of 19 to Grandmare in maiden at Doncaster (7f, soft). BOUNDLESS 18l 13th of 17 to Tmmming in maiden at Newmarket (7f, soft). RAY OF HOPE 23l 10th of 13 to Peace Envoy in maiden at Yarmouth (7f, good). Selection: SALAMAN

5.20 KIBWORTH HANDICAP (£4,003: 7f 9yd) (12 runners)

1 (10) 4/20405- SERIOUS OPTION 264 (F,S) (Hon Piers Portman) P Cole 4-10-0 . T Quinn 87
2 (3) 634230- TAWAFU 173J (D,F,S) (S Laidlaw) T Dyer 6-9-13 . W Carson 92
3 (2) 221000- KNOBBLEENEEZE 161 (V,D,F,G,S) (A Arcaneos) M Channon 5-9-8 . R Hughes 97
4 (5) 505010- PANKON 168 (D,F,G,S) (P Lambert) J Wharton 7-9-3 . J Quinn 89
5 (6) 30510-3 GADGE 6 (S) (J R Lesure) D Morris 4-9-3 . K Darley 97
6 (4) 05/001- SHARP REBUFF 257 (D,G) (D Ahier) P Makin 4-8-11 . L Dettori 89
7 (7) 000000- SAIFAN 152 (F,G) (Mrs L Hawes) D Morris 6-8-11 . G Hodgson (3) 94
8 (8) 114-360 SANDMOOR DENIM 31 (C,D,F,G) (E Lumsden) S Bowring 8-8-9 . C Teague (7) 97
9 (1) 101350- FIRST GOLD 148 (D,F,G,S) (K Standen) J Wharton 6-8-8 . J Williams 96
10 (11) 400114- HALMANERROR 146 (D,G,S) (Mrs J Smith) Mrs J Ramsden 5-8-8 . M Hills 97
11 (2) 5000-05 GREAT HALL 3 (C,F,G) (Miss M C Fraser) P Cundell 5-8-3 . O Harrison 96
12 (12) 000102- EAST BARNS 155 (B,D,F,G,S) (Northern B'stock) S Gollings 7-7-7 . Martin Dwyer (7) 84

Long handicap: East Barns 7-4

BETTING: 7-2 Halmanerror, 4-1 Gadge, 5-1 Sharp Rebuff, 7-1 Pankon, 8-1 Tawafu, 10-1 Knobbleeneeze. First Gold, 12-1 others.

1994: VOXALL LODGE 4-8-12 V Smith (25-1) R Collingridge 13 ran

FORM FOCUS

TAWAFU 4l and short-head 3rd of 11 to Polish Admiral in handicap at Newcastle (7f, firm). KNOBBLEENEEZE 20l 15th of 27 to Jobs in apprentices handicap at Newbury (7f, good) with GREAT HALL (2lb better off) 10l 21st. PANKON beat Jigsaw Boy 3l in 23-runner handicap at Haydock (5f, soft) penultimate start. GADGE 4¼l 3rd of 23 to Sharp Prospect in handicap at Doncaster (1m, good to firm). SHARP REBUFF beat Hilton Travel 3½l in 12-runner handicap at Ayr (7f, good) FIRST GOLD about 2l 5th of 24 to Different Times in handicap at Newmarket (7f, firm). HALMANERROR, completed dayside, beat Jesdem neck in 27-runner handicap at York (7f, good to soft) penultimate start, with SANDMOOR DENIM (5lb better off) about 13l 16th. GREAT HALL about 2l 5th of 16 to Otherfortunbus in handicap at Folkestone (7f, good). EAST BARNS 2½l 2nd of 20 to Erton in handicap at Yarmouth (7f, good). Selection: SANDMOOR DENIM

CHEPSTOW

THUNDERER

2.00 Midnight Hour. 2.30 Magellan Bay. 3.00 Landed Gentry. 3.30 The Boiler White. 4.00 Heresthedeal. 4.30 Synderborough Lad. 5.00 Lottery Ticket.

Brian Beel: 4.30 Synderborough Lad.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT — SIS

2.00 BEAGLES NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,710: 2m 110yd) (25 runners)

1 -410 KILLONE ABBOT 15 (D,S) J Old 6-11-8 . J Osborne (5) –
2 1 MIDNIGHT HOUR 21 (D,S) M Pipe 6-11-8 . R Dunwoody 80
3 6130 SENOR EL BETRUTI 61 (D,S) C Brooks 6-11-8 . G Bradley 87
4 U100 SUPREME MASTER 16 (D,S) Miss C Johnsey 5-11-8 . A P McCoy 91
5 0/0 BIGGLES BOY 115 N Bailey 6-11-2 . N Williamson –
6 28 BOLD DOLPHIN 77 T Forster 5-11-2 . R Farrant 71
7 64 CALIPO BELLO 75 F Murphy 5-11-2 . A Maguire –
8 00 CALL THE BUREAU 17 H Haynes 6-11-2 . E Tolhurst (7) –
9 2-P HENRYK 48 (S) Mrs J Sidebottom 11-11-2 . Mr J Jukes (7) –
10 0-0P KARICLEIGH BOY 29 (S) Mrs J Potter 7-11-2 . S Burrough –
11 2445 LATEST THYNE 19 T Forster 5-11-2 . G McCourt 83
12 64P LOGICAL STEP 117 D Gandolfo 5-11-2 . D Leahy (3) 78
13 546- MANDYS LAD 337 R Dickin 6-11-2 . D Meredith (3) 60
14 00- NURSERY STORY 308 Mrs R Harris 7-11-2 . Richard Guest –
15 0-44 QUARRY HOUSE 71 D Chappell 7-11-2 . G Upton 83
16 64 RIVERS END 68 J Edwards 6-11-2 . D Bentley –
17 3450 STEEL GEM 39 G Bradley 6-11-2 . Miss S Wallin 84
18 4-20 TAP SHOES 75 R Bliss 5-11-2 . B Powell –
19 -850 VOLCANIC ROC 21 G Davies 5-11-2 . G Tormey (5) –
20 0 RIO DANCER 7 H Oliver 6-10-11 . Jacqui Oliver –
21 0P BEYOND THE STARS 28 G Smith 4-10-8 . R Davis –
22 BODANTREE 29F H Oliver 4-10-8 . V Slattery –
23 P YOUNG CLIFFORD 6 F Jordan 4-10-8 . J Lodder –
24 00 HUSH TINA 9 J Tuck 4-10-3 . S McNeill –
25 00 SHIFT CHANGEOVER 40 S Mellor 4-10-3 . M Perrett –

9-4 Midnight Hour, 3-1 Killone Abbot, 4-1 Senor El Betruti, 8-1 Rivers End, 10-1 Supreme Master, Bold Dolphin, 12-1 Latest Thyne, 14-1 others.

2.30 ANVIL NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE
(£2,999: 2m 3f 110yd) (14)

1 1-41 ABRA 15 (S) M Pipe 7-12-0 . DOUBTFUL –
2 225- WEST BAY 406 (F) T Thomson Jones 9-11-9 . M A Fitzgerald 82
3 FL2F MABELLAN BAY 24 Mrs J Pitman 7-11-8 . W Marston (5) –
4 -5P3 BLACK CHURCH 116 R Rowe 9-11-1 . D O'Sullivan 98
5 /31 LLACCA SAM 9 (S) M Eckley 8-10-7 (7ex) . N Williamson 93
6 -F40 LO-FLYING MISSILE 39 R Dickin 7-10-4 . D Meredith (3) –
7 0P-P EIGHTY EIGHT 12 Mrs H Dawson 10-10-0 . D Leahy (3) –
8 P0-5 SENNA BLUE 12 R Pugh 10-10-0 . V Slattery 76
9 /P4 BLACK HORSE LAD 15 (S) Mrs J Retter 11-10-0 . S Burrough 82
10 6-PR SARAH'S WROATH 26 (B) M Scudamore 10-10-0 . S McNeill –
11 -06F LITTLE WISHFUL 51 R Dickin 7-10-0 . R Bellamy –
12 553P ROCQUAINE 7 (B) S Brown 9-10-0 . Mr R Johnson (7) –
13 3/P- TOM PENNY 324 Mrs R Harry 13-10-0 . Richard Guest –
14 /RS- MISHY'S STAR 332 (B) A Forte 13-10-0 . I Lawrence –

9-4 Magellan Bay, 3-1 Llacca Sam, 9-2 West Bay, 8-1 Black Church, 8-1 Lo-Flying Missile, 12-1 Sarah's Wroath, Senna Blue. 16-1 others.

3.00 FARRIER HANDICAP HURDLE
(£3,761: 2m 4f 110yd) (11)

1 1140 BURNT IMP 40 (D,F,G,S) G Moore 5-11-10 . J Callaghan 93
2 13U1 HOPS AND POPS 34 (D,D,F,G,S) R Alner 8-11-5 . A Maguire 94
3 PP20 SENDAI 16 (CD,F,G,S) J Gifford 9-11-3 . P Hide 97
4 3423 CUNNINGHAMS FORD 111 (D,F,S) O Sherwood 7-11-2 . Mr A Harvey 98
5 3403 FOREST FEATHER 29 (D,G) C Weedon 7-10-11 . Peter Hobbs 93
6 1F-5 NORTHERN VILLAGE 12 (D,F,G) S Dow 8-10-11 D Bridgwater 93
7 1160 NAHTHEH LAD 13 (D,G,S) Mrs J Pitman 6-10-9 . W Marston 94
8 31U3 LARDED GENTRY 34 (D,S) C Brooks 5-10-7 . C Llewellyn 97
9 4-52 APPER MOLE 12 (BF,S) J Old 7-10-3 . T Grantham 88
10 /P1 ANGELO'S DOUBLE 12 (S) R Buckler 7-10-0 . B Powell (5) –
11 -85F HIDDEN OATS 13 (F,S) Miss C Johnsey 8-10-0 . L Harvey 80

3-1 Hops And Pops, 4-1 Landed Gentry, 5-1 Burnt Imp, 6

Scotland's spirited approach rewarded

Russia 0
Scotland 0

FROM KEVIN McCARRA IN MOSCOW

WITH an organised and spirited display in the Luzhniki Stadium here yesterday, Scotland secured the draw that greatly enhances their chances of qualifying for the European championship finals. The easier half of their group eight programme now lies beguilingly before them. Many had dreaded that Craig Brown's team would be outclassed but the selection made by Russia suggested that they at least had guessed how resolute the opposition would be.

Igor Dobrovolski, at present with Atlético Madrid, is the sort of player who should be fitted with a homing device so that his whereabouts can be established. He always seems to be in the process of being transferred or loaned in one lucrative deal or another. The midfield playmaker is one of those men gifted enough to attract buyers and unreliable enough to be sold.

This gadfly talent, understandably, is not always included in Oleg Romantsev's team, but the Russia coach knew that a performer of such imagination would have to be indulged against a stubborn and numerous Scottish defence. The visitors' midfield covered with frenetic dedication to ensure that only a swift, instinctive pass would split open the centre of the team, where Hendry, McLaren and Calderwood were utterly implacable.

Dobrovolski demonstrated that he was capable of such invention in the 25th minute, providing the crucial ingredient in a move that left Kanchelskis free in front of goal. Only the alertness of McLaren, who produced a harrassed but effective tackle, saved his team. That opportunity for the Manchester United player, who usually confines himself to the right wing, indicated the exertion needed by the Russians to find space. Scotland, however, did attempt to inflict more than just a sense of claustrophobia. In the first half, Russia had one moment of particular apprehension when John McGinlay's craft at co-ordinating attacks from the centre-forward position saw him release Boyd, after 20 minutes, with a back-heel. The full back then hesitated when he could have shot and the defence was able to block.

Before the interval there was often only a spurious sort of menace from Romantsev's team. Kiriakov, for example, roused the crowd in the first half by shooting from an impossible angle, with Leighton covering his post, and hitting the side-netting. Later, Russian technique was apparent as Nikiforov received a short free kick and struck a firm drive that the goalkeeper judged well.

The home team, however, should have had the opportunity to score in the 32nd minute. Boyd's mistimed tackle floored Karpin inside the area but an unsighted referee saw no offence and heard nothing from his linesman. Despite that incident, doubts about Russia's resolve to labour their way to victory persisted.

Brown seemed to have such qualities in mind as he reflected on the result. "As a football coach," he said, "I feel we were technically inferior, but each player gave his all." In particular, the team sustained concentration in a defence that Romantsev ruefully termed "perfect". The resilience was remarkable and Leighton, at 36, demonstrated that his suitability for games of this stature is intact.

The only Scots in the ground experiencing dissatisfaction may have been representatives of the Old Firm. The Rangers assistant manager, Archie Knox, saw Kanchelskis fade and Celtic's supposed target, Radchenko, was substituted. Scotland, with Calderwood making a composed debut in defence, did not waver.

Russia were far more persistent after the interval, but manufactured just one glaring chance when the defender, Kovtoun, came forward to reach a free kick and drove against Leighton's legs. Brown's team, however, was in no danger of the rout that had been predicted.

RUSSIA (3-4-3): D Kharine (Chelsea) — D Khlestov (Spartak Moscow), Y Nikiforov (Spartak Moscow), Y Kovtoun (Dynamo Moscow) — V Karpin (Real Sociedad), V Onopko (Spartak Moscow), I Dobrovolski (Atlético Madrid), I Shalimov (Duisburg; sub V Radimov, CSKA Moscow, 69min) — A Kanchelskis (Manchester United), S Kiriakov (Karlsruhe), D Radchenko (Racing Santander; sub, N Piserev, Dynamo Moscow, 57).

SCOTLAND (3-5-2): J Leighton (Hibernian) — C Calderwood (Tottenham Hotspur), C Hendry (Blackburn Rovers), A McLaren (Rangers) — S McKimmie (Aberdeen), P McStay (Celtic), G McAllister (Leeds United), J Collins (Celtic), T Boyd (Celtic) — J McGinlay (Bolton Wanderers; sub; W McKinlay, Dundee United, 84), D Jackson (Hibernian, sub: D Shearer, Aberdeen, 78).
Referee: H Strampe (Germany).

GROUP EIGHT

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Greece	4	4	0	0	12	1	12
Scotland	5	2	2	1	8	3	8
Finland	4	2	0	2	9	7	6
Russia	3	1	2	0	5	1	5
San Marino	3	0	0	3	1	10	0
Faroe Islands	3	0	0	3	2	15	0

(Not including San Marino v Finland)

RESULTS: Finland 0 Scotland 2, Faeroe Islands 1 Greece 5, Scotland 5 Faeroe Islands 1, Greece 4 Finland 0, Russia 4 San Marino 0, Scotland 1 Russia 1, Greece 2 San Marino 0, Finland 5 Faeroe Islands 0, Finland 4 San Marino 1, Greece 1 Scotland 0, Russia 0 Scotland 0

FIXTURES: Apr 26: San Marino v Scotland, Greece v Russia, Faeroe Islands v Finland May 6: Russia v Faeroe Islands. May 25: Faeroe Islands v San Marino Jun 7: Faeroe Islands v Scotland, San Marino v Russia. Jun 11: Finland v Greece Aug 16: Scotland v Greece, Finland v Russia. Sept 6: Scotland v Finland, Faeroe Islands v Russia, San Marino v Greece. Oct 11: Russia v Greece, Faeroe Islands v San Marino Nov 15: Scotland v San Marino, Russia v Finland, Greece v Faeroe Islands



Niall Quinn is mobbed by his Republic of Ireland team-mates after putting his side into the lead against Northern Ireland at Landsdowne Road yesterday. Match report, page 44. Photograph: Billy Stickland

Inter step up hunt for Cantona

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

INTERNAZIONALE, the Italian League club, are ready to step up their bid to land Eric Cantona, the troubled Manchester United player. Paolo Daveggia, aide to Inter's new multimillionaire owner, Massimo Moratti, said yesterday: "I really am positive about Cantona. I think we will find a solution to take him to Inter."

Daveggia said he had spoke to Martin Edwards, the United chairman and chief executive, last Friday, and added: "I believe there is a real chance to get Cantona. We trust United and Mr Edwards."

The 28-year-old striker, suspended from football worldwide until October after his assault on a Crystal Palace supporter at Selhurst Park in January, will hear the result of his appeal against a two-week jail sentence over the incident tomorrow.

Nigeria may try to get Africa to boycott the world youth championships after being dropped as hosts, an Egyptian Football Federation official said yesterday.

Nigerian officials are to meet leaders of the Confederation of African Soccer (CAF) today and tomorrow in an attempt to get African support.

The official, who declined to be named, said the Nigerians might seek an African boycott of the championships which are now to be held in the Gulf state of Qatar from April 13 to 28.

Fifa, the world governing body, announced last week that the tournament for under-20 teams would definitely not be held in Nigeria for security reasons.

Jürgen Klinsmann, the Tottenham Hotspur striker, scored Germany's goals in their 2-0 European Championship group seven win over Georgia in Tbilisi yesterday.

Romania beat Poland 2-1 in their group one qualifying game in Bucharest to hold onto their lead in group one. After a first half filled with attacks by the Romanians, Poland opened scoring in the 42nd minute with a penalty by Andrzej Juskowiak after a foul by Daniel Prodan, the defender.

Three minutes later, in a superb counter-attack, Gheorghe Hagi, the Romania captain, played the ball back to Florin Raducioiu, who slid a sharp-angled left shot past several players, outwitting Joszef Wandzik, the Poland goalkeeper.

A corner from Hagi to Raducioiu in the 55th minute led to a collision between Wandzik and Raducioiu in the goalmouth in which the ball trickled out of the goalkeeper's hands to put Romania into the lead.

Poland ended the match with ten players after Woitek Jaskulski was sent off after receiving yellow cards, the only ones in the game, in the 55th and 73rd minutes.

Wrong man ends up with the right result

ANDY JOHNSON, the victim of a case of mistaken identity, had justice done when his sending-off against West Ham United earlier this season was wiped out by the Football Association.

The referee, Martin Sims, had mistakenly dismissed the Norwich midfield player instead of Johnson's team-mate, Spencer Prior, after the West Ham forward, Tony Cottee, was brought down just outside the Norwich penalty area in the game at Upton Park on March 11.

Sims — who had taken over as referee from the injured Alan Wilkie only four minutes earlier — and the two Norwich players attended an FA hearing yesterday.

Mike Parry, an FA spokesman, said: "Both the Norwich players involved and the official attended and put their case. But after watching a video of the incident, Mr Sims agreed he had made a mistake. Andy Johnson's dismissal has been scrubbed and Spencer Prior has now been banned for one match."

Bulgaria supply late flurry as Welsh endeavour proves in vain

Wales 1
Bulgaria 3

FROM RUSSELL KEMPSON IN SOFIA

A BETTER display but the same result — no points. Wales slipped to their fourth successive defeat in the European championship qualifying campaign, and fell to the foot of the group seven table, when they were outgunned by Bulgaria here last night. Effort, endeavour and enthusiasm are no substitute for world class and Wales, though offering plenty to admire in the opening stages, were finally swept away by the World Cup semi-finalists.

Eight inches of snow had fallen overnight, enveloping the vast Vasil Ledski stadium in a white shroud. However, on a fine and fresh spring day, a battalion of soldiers and assorted assistants spent most of the morning and afternoon clearing it away.

Playing in their new bottle green strip, with white and red flashes, Wales resembled a rugby league outfit. Sadly, their early play carried the same physical format, with Jones warned for a typically robust challenge after only 20 seconds. Hartson, the Arsenal forward, received similar admonishment from Michel Piraux, the Belgian referee, for a similarly wild tackle on Kremenliev.

Hartson, 19, did not heed the lesson. In the eighth minute of his international debut, he was booked for a reckless lunge at Stoichkov, which provoked a cacophony of whistles from the boisterous crowd. Still, Wales began encouragingly, even after the news that they had gone bottom of the group on goal difference because of Albania's 3-0 win over Moldavia earlier in the day.

Hughes managed to drift in a brace of useful crosses from the left and Coleman, moving up for a Giggs corner, saw his close-range shot deflected over the crossbar.

Bulgaria, though more at ease than Wales when in possession, were often guilty of trying to be too intricate. When they did attempt to trouble Southall, their efforts were poorly directed. Stoichkov selfishly shot over, with team-mates available and ready in the middle, and Iankov also drove high and wide when colleagues were better placed.

Speed tried his luck from 30 yards to no avail and, just when Wales appeared to have settled into a comfortable groove, Bulgaria broke the deadlock in the 37th minute. Balakov, the player Crystal Palace attempted to sign last week, hovered on the edge of the penalty area, looking for options. He did not seem to have any until he glanced up and curled a superb effort over Southall and into the net via the far post.

Jones complained to Piraux about the theatrics of the Bulgarians when tackled as the teams trooped off at half-time. Stoichkov was annoyed by such an accusation and had to be restrained from approaching Jones by Ivanov as they left the pitch.

The pair met again soon after the interval when Jones misheaded an intended clearance to Stoichkov. The European footballer of the year struck a low drive at Southall, but Jones atoned for his error by deflecting it wide with a last-ditch challenge.

Wales probed gently, searching for the equaliser, but promising approach work faded into nothing. Bulgaria, however, were simply toying with them. Southall had to make athletic saves from Penev and Kostadinov before Penev made it 2-0 in the seventieth minute, when he used his chest to redirect Balakov's shot on its route past Southall.

Eleven minutes later, Penev headed in Bulgaria's third from a deep cross by Kostadinov. Surprisingly, Wales responded with a goal of their own, Saunders directing a neat shot past Mikhailov.



Hartson: cautioned

BULGARIA (3-3-1-3): B Mikhailov (Multihouse) — T Ivanov (Real Betis), P Houbtchev (SV Hamburg), T Tzvetanov (Levski Sofia; sub I Kiriakov, CSKA Sofia, 83min) — K Balakov (FC Stuttgart), Z Iankov (Real Valladolid), E Kremenliev (Levski Sofia) — I Lechkov (SV Hamburg) — H Stoichkov (Barcelona), L Penev (Valencia), E Kostadinov (Deportivo La Coruña).

WALES (4-4-2): N Southall (Everton) — DC Phillips (Nottingham Forest), K Symons (Portsmouth), C Coleman (Crystal Palace), M Bowen (Norwich City) — B Horne (Everton), V Jones (Wimbledon; sub: J Cornforth, Swansea City, 78), G Speed (Leeds United), R Giggs (Manchester United) — D Saunders (Aston Villa), J Hartson (Arsenal).
Referee: M Piraux (Belgium).

GROUP SIX

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bulgaria	4	4	0	0	12	2	12
Germany	3	3	0	0	7	2	9
Georgia	4	2	0	2	6	3	6
Moldova	4	2	0	2	5	9	6
Wales	5	1	0	4	5	14	3
Albania	4	0	0	4	2	7	0

RESULTS: Georgia 0 Moldavia 1, Wales 2 Albania 0, Moldavia 3 Wales 2, Bulgaria 2 Georgia 0, Albania 1 Germany 2, Georgia 5, Wales 0, Bulgaria 4 Moldavia 1, Albania 0, Georgia 1, Moldavia 0 Germany 3, Wales 0 Bulgaria 3, Germany 2 Albania 1, Bulgaria 3 Wales 1, Georgia 0 Germany 2, Albania 3, Moldavia 0.

FIXTURES: Apr 26: Germany v Wales, Moldavia v Bulgaria, Georgia v Albania. Jun 7: Bulgaria v Germany, Wales v Georgia, Moldavia v Albania. Sep 6: Germany v Georgia, Wales v Moldavia, Albania v Bulgaria. Oct 7: Bulgaria v Albania. Oct 8: Germany v Moldavia. Oct 11: Wales v Germany. Nov 15: Germany v Bulgaria, Albania v Wales, Moldavia v Georgia.

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FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Miami 115 Boston 126; New Jersey 113 Golden State 127; New York 111 Chicago 113; Dallas 114 Milwaukee 93; Houston 96 LA Lakers 106; Phoenix 102 Utah 111; Portland 91 Atlanta 102; Sacramento 117 Orlando 106.
SCHOOLS MATCHES: English Association: Boys: Under-19: Final: Sheffield College 79 Barrow VI Form College 65. Under-18: Final: Homerton House (Hackney) 89 Eastfields (Mitcham) 87. Girls: Under-18: Final: Harris CTC (Croydon) 76 Richard Aldworth (Basingstoke) 72.

BOWLS

OGWR: CIS Welsh indoor association national championships: Quarter-finals: Singles: N Williams (Swansea) bt P Howells (Pembrokshire) 21-12, M Roberts (Llanelli) bt R Verden (Llanelli) 21-17; J Downey (Merthyr Tydfil) bt K Vaughan (Swansea) 21-17; J Price (Swansea) bt R Weale (Radnorshire) 21-9. Pairs: G Phillipps and C Williams (Earlswood) bt G Dennis and M Roberts (Llanelli) 22-19; C Piper and I Morgan (Port Talbot) bt D K Jones and M Anstey (Merthyr Tydfil) 22-13, N Rees and A Price (Llanelli) bt D Stevens and B Jones (Radnorshire) 22-13, W Letman and P Rowlans (Cardiff) bt S Rees and J Price (Swansea) 20-19

CRICKET

One-day international
New Zealand v Sri Lanka
TRUSTBANK PARK, Hamilton (Sri Lanka won toss). New Zealand beat Sri Lanka on a faster run rate

NEW ZEALAND

B A Young c Tillekaratne b Vaas	4
N Astle b Vaas	95
*K R Rutherford c Kalpage b Muralidharan	34
S P Fleming c Pushpakumara b Kalpage	6
C L Cairns c Gamage b Vaas	42
†A C Parore not out	61
S A Thomson b Jayasuriya	1
D N Patel not out	22
Extras (lb 9, w 6)	15
Total (6 wkts)	280

G R Larsen, J T C Vaughan, C Pringle.
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-23, 2-83, 3-84, 4-173, 5-242, 6-245.
BOWLING: Pushpakumara 5-0-32-0, Vaas 10-1-36-3; Gamage 5-0-37-0; Kalpage 7-0-35-1; Muralidharan 10-1-62-1, Jayasuriya 10-0-47-1; Ranatunga 3-0-22-0.

SRI LANKA

A P Gurusinha c Larsen b Pringle	7
S T Jayasuriya c Young b Patel	6
S Ranatunga run out	15
A de Silva run out	7
*A Ranatunga c Parore b Larsen	27
†H P Tillekaratne not out	39
R S Kalpage c Patel b Larsen	11
W P U J C Vaas not out	1
Extras (b 1, lb 2, w 1)	4
Total (6 wkts)	117

M Muralitharan, K R Pushpakumara and J Gamage did not bat
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-8, 2-16, 3-90, 4-46, 5-90, 6-111.
BOWLING: Pringle 7-1-22-1; Patel 10-1-31-1; Vaughan 3-0-18-0; Larsen 6-0-20-2; Thomson 5-0-23-0.
Man of the match: Nathan Astle (New Zealand)
New Zealand lead series 2-0.

FOOTBALL

European championship

Group six

IRELAND (0) 1 N IRELAND (0) 1
Quinn 47 Dowie 72
32,200
(at Lansdowne Road, Dublin)

Group seven

BULGARIA (1) 3 WALES (0) 1
Balakov 37 Saunders 83
Penev 70, 82 60,000
(in Sofia)

Group eight

RUSSIA (0) 0 SCOTLAND (0) 0
25,000
(at Luzhniki Stadium, Moscow)

OTHER MATCHES: Group one: Romania 2 Poland 1 (in Bucharest). Group five: Czech Republic 4 Belarus 4-2 (in Ostrava). Group seven: Albania 3 Moldavia 0 (in Tirana)
EUROPEAN UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP: Group two: Cyprus 1 Denmark 5 (in Larnaca). Group four: Slovenia 5 Estonia 0 (in Murska Sobota); (in Panevezys) Lithuania 0 Croatia 1; Ukraine 2 Italy 1 (in Kiev)
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Ipswich 2 Luton 0; Millwall 0 Crystal Palace 1; Wimbledon 0 Norwich 0 Second division: Cardiff 2 Swansea 4.
UNDER-18 INTERNATIONAL: Hungary 0 England 1 (in Szekesfehervar).

Tuesday's late results

EUROPEAN UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP: Group one: Israel 1 France 1 (in Ashdod). Group two: Spain 1 Belgium 1 (in Malaga) Group three: Hungary 1 Switzerland 0 (in Budapest); Turkey 0 Sweden 0 (in Istanbul). Group five: Holland 4 Malta 0 (in Tilburg), Luxembourg 0 Norway 8 (in Beggen). Group six: Austria 0 Latvia 0 (in Wals-Gruenau). Group eight: San Marino 0 Finland 6 (in San Marino)
ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE: First division: Burnley 4 Port Vale 3. Second division: Cardiff 2 Bradford 4; Chester 1 Hull 2; Plymouth 0 Stockport 2, Rotherham 4 Brighton 3; Wycombe 3 Peterborough 1.
VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Telford 2 Altrincham 3, Bob Lord Trophy: Semi-final, second leg: Bromsgrove 4 Macclesfield 1 (aet, Bromsgrove win 5-3 on agg, 2-1 at 90min).
BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Third division: Alloa 0 Montrose 1.
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Queens Park Rangers 0 Southampton 2.
PONTINS LEAGUE: First division: Shelf Utd 0 Everton 0.
FA UMBRO TROPHY: Quarter-final replay: Rushden and Diamonds 4 Enfield 3 (aet: 3-3 after 90min). Winners play Woking in semi-final.
DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Bromley 0 Marlow 0; Hendon 3 Grays 3; Slough 3 Hitchin 2, St Albans 2 Aylesbury 1. First division: Barking 0 Worthing 2; Billericay 2 Ruislip 0, Heybridge 3 Chertsey 2, Leyton 1 Aldershot 1; Stanstead 1 Uxbridge 2; Wivenhoe 1 Berkhamsted 0. Second division: Bracknell 1 Hampton 2, Hemel Hempstead 2 Ware 1; Leatherhead 3 Egham 2; Maiden Vale 2 Thame 4, Tilbury 1 Croydon 0, Windsor and Eton 0 Cheshunt 2. Third division: Canvey Is 3 Horsham 3; Cove 2 Kingsbury 5. Carlsberg Cup: Semi-final: Hayes 1 Boreham Wood 2. Carlsberg Trophy: Semi-final: Hungerford 0 Collier Row 3.
BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Midland division: Bridgnorth 1 Dudley 0; Ilkeston v Hinckley postponed; RC Warwick 2 Bedworth 0, Stourbridge 4 Forest Green 1; Sutton Coldfield 2 Rothwell 0; Tamworth 1 Evesham 0. Southern division: Baldock 4 Weymouth 2, Fareham 1 Witney 1; Fisher 93 0 Braintree 0; Margate 1 Ashford 3, Waterlooville 0 Clevedon 0
UNIBOND LEAGUE: First division: Warrington Town 1 Netherfield 0.
KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Bangor 7 Aberystwyth 2, Caersws 2 Cwmbran 2, Conwy 0 Holywell 1; Newtown 3 Rhyl 0; Porthmadog 2 Connah's Quay 0.
BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division: Galway 0 Athlone 1
WILKINSON SWORD LEAGUE CUP: Semi-final: Ards 2 Bangor 1

HOCKEY

AEWHA Under-15 Cup: Quarter-finals: Bradford HC 1 Portishead HC 4; King Edward VI GHS, Edgbaston 2 Tunbridge Wells GGS 0, Kings HS (Warwickshire) 0 Harleston Magpies HC 7, Petersfield HC 1 Herne Bay HC 4.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Boston 5 Philadelphia 1; Buffalo 5 Quebec 3; Detroit 6 Anaheim 4; Pittsburgh 6 NY Islanders 3, Calgary 3 Los Angeles 5, San Jose 6 Winnipeg 5 (OT).

JUDO

HIGH WYCOMBE: Britain v Japan: Team one (Britain names first): Under-60kg: M Neale lost to Kumano. Under-65: J Davis bt Mikami. Under-71: S Wright bt Hanetaka. Under-78: S Hams bt Yamakawa. Under-86: M Ashton drew with Nanbo Under-95: J Adams lost to Oka. Over-95: J Goldie bt Hamada. Result: Britain bt Japan Team two: Under-60kg: J Bennit lost to Sato Under-65: P Rayney bt Yokota. Under-71: D Luxford bt Komatsu. Under-78: M Mulligan drew with Sugimoto. Under-86: S Holt lost to Kato. Under-95: S Delahay bt Otani. Over-95: B Brown lost to Nakamishi. Result: Britain drew with Japan Team three: Under-60kg: J Dillon lost to Kobayashi. Under-71: R Clarke bt Furuya. Under-78: S Warner bt Wakabayashi Under-86: M Williams lost to Morwaki. Under-95: S Groves lost to Handa. Over-95: S Brannan bt Tenamoto Result: Japan bt Britain. Team four: Under-60kg: P Hall bt Ishihara. Under-65: A Maharaj bt Komatsu. Under-78: J Galpin bt Inoue Under-86: M Cas bt Kawabe. Under-95: N Boli lost to Nakamishi. Over-95: B Brown lost to Minoda. Result: Britain bt Japan
Overall result: Britain 14 Japan 10.

SKIING

TIGNES, France: British national championships: Slalom: Men: 1, A Sullivan (Nottingham) 1min 33.05sec; 2, S Pession (British Men's Europe Cup Team/ Brighton) 1 33.08; 3, J Ormond (Grand Bornand/British Men's Europe Cup Team) 1 33.24; 4, F Mickel (KPMG Scottish Team/Edinburgh) 1:36.58; 5, R Hughes (Gwynedd) 1 37.36 Women: 1, M Adam (Stirling University/Hanson and Robertson British FIS Team) 1.21 74; 2, S Ormond (Grand Bornand/GBR) 1.25 76; 3, K McGibbon (KPMG Scottish Team/Glasgow) 1:26 58; 4, E Hunt (St Albans) 1 30.08; 5, P Liddell (I-PMG Scottish Team/Aberdeen) 1:31.73

TENNIS

HILTON HEAD, South Carolina: Women's tournament (US unless stated): First round: A Smashnova (Isr) bt Z Garrison-Jackson 6-1, 2-6, 6-4, M Oremans (Hol) bt A Serra-Zanetti (It) 6-1, 3-6, 7-6; J Kruger (SA) bt I Gorrochategui (Arg) 5-7, 6-4, 7-6; S Stafford bt N Wagner (Bul) 7-5, 6-4; K Boogert (Hol) bt B Fulco-Villella (Arg) 6-1, 7-6 P Schwarz-Ritter (Austria) bt S Appelmans (Bel) 6-2, 2-6, 6-3; K Boogert (Hol) bt B Fulco Villela (Arg) 6-1, 7-6; L Neiland (Lat) bt A Carlsson (Swe) 6-2 6-4, G Helgeson Nielsen bt R Nideffer (SA) 6-2, 6-1; L Ghirardi (Fr) bt D Graham 6-2, 2-6, 6-3. Second round: I Majoli (Cro) bt V Ruano-Pascual (Sp) 6-0, 6-0; C Martinez (Sp) bt E Makarova (Rus) 6-0, 6-2, M Maleeva (Bul) bt R McQuillan (Aus) 6-3, 1-6, 6-4, S Farina (It) bt L McNeil 6-3, 6-1, S Pitkowski (Fr) bt L Lee 6-4 6-2.

YACHTING

SAN DIEGO, California: America's Cup: Semi-finals: Louis Vuitton Cup (challenger series) Team New Zealand (P Blake) bt Nippon '95 (M Namba) by 3min 45sec; oneAustralia (J Bertrand) bt Tag Heuer Challenge (C Dickson) 1:43. Standings: 1, Team New Zealand 8pts, 2, oneAustralia 5, 3, Tag Heuer Challenge 3; 4, Nippon '95 0. Citizen Cup (defender series) Stars & Stripes (D Conner) bt America³ (L Egnot) 1:31 Standings: 1, Young America (K Mahaney) 6; 2, Stars & Stripes 3; 3, America³ 2

POOLS DIVIDENDS

LITTLEWOODS: Treble chance (maximum points 24): 24pts £31,218.70, 23½ £279.75, 23 £54.90, 22½ £10.80, 22 £3.40, 21½ £1.25 (Six dividends only see rule 9 (i)). Four draws: £1.75. Ten homes (paid on nine homes). £2,822.65. Five aways: £75.30 FA Cup pool 1995: The four semi-finalists: Crystal Palace (team No 6), Everton (No 9), Manchester United (No 21), Tottenham Hotspur (No 27) £511.10.
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ZETTERS: Treble chance: 24pts £25.15, 23 £0.55 (Two dividends only, see rule 9(a)) Four draws: £2.00. Four super homes: £494.00 Four aways: £56.00. Lucky numbers: 15, 5, 20, 26, 32, 12.

Wales fail to press home advantage

Wales 18 Group 6
England 18 Group 9

BY DAVID HANDS RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

ENGLAND'S schoolboys, grand slam champions last season, achieved their first win in Wales since 1985 at Llanelli last night but were lucky to do so. Most of the fluid rugby came from Wales but their inability to kick goals cost them the match.

In 51 games between the countries, England had never previously visited Stradey Park. Nor did their players enjoy much early fortune when they did — with less than a quarter of the game gone, Wappett, their captain, was carried off concussed.

It has been a mixed season for Wales, who started with defeats by New Zealand and Scotland, only to improve by beating France and Japan. On that basis England, who beat Scotland last Saturday (having earlier beaten Australia but lost to New Zealand) started favourites and took the lead with the first of Cook's penalties.

Cook's smoothly grooved kicking has been a feature of England's season and his success rubbed in three failures by Field, the Welsh captain. Even so, Wales were able to create overlaps for their wings and their rucking gave them a distinct advantage in the loose against an England side struggling for possession.

A delightful pass by Roberts opened the field for Case — one of six Neath College boys in the Welsh XV — but when a try loomed, Wales could only win a penalty. Hawkins, taking over the kicking, converted from close range to reduce England's interval lead to 6-3.

England's lineout improved in the second half but their propensity for conceding penalties did not. Cook improved their lead on a rare visit to the Welsh 22 but the home side, ball in hand, looked far more dangerous. Their kicking should have won them the match but in the closing stages Hawkins missed from 20 metres and two dropped-goal attempts were charged down.

SCORERS: Wales 18 Group: Penalty goals: Hawkins (2). England 18 Group: Penalty goals: Cook (3).

WALES 18 GROUP: D Case (Neath College); P Rafferty (St Alban's), T Davies (Neath College), D Hawkins (Neath College), M Williams (Glan-Taf), G Roberts (Treorchy), G Downs (Rhydfelen); E Field (Llanharn), C Wells (Neath College), Gibbs (Pontypool College), M Cook (Neath College), A Grabham (Glan-Taf), R Edwards (Tregaron), R Field (St David's College, captain), G Newman (Neath College). Edwards replaced by R Parker (Monmouth, 67min).

ENGLAND 18 GROUP: T Barlow (Newcastle-under-Lyme); P Sampson (Woodhouse Grove), J Ewens (Colchester Collegiate), K Sorrell (Campion), J Cook (Millfield), J Hurst (Stonyhurst), M Wood (Harrogate GS), M Worsley (St Ambrose College), R Protherough (King's Worcester), C Cano (Thomas Alleyne), J Cockle (Prior Park College), J Beardshaw (Gresham's), W Fuller (Wallington GS), J Worsley (Hutchin Boys), G Wappett (Bradford GS, captain). Wappett replaced by M Gollan (Ivybridge College, 16); Cook replaced by D Pawson (Skinners, 67).
Referee: D Leslie (Scotland).

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Manchester United ..... TEAM NUMBER 21
Tottenham Hotspur ..... TEAM NUMBER 27
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Therefore Littlewoods Pools Rules are amended as follows.
With effect from Saturday 1st April 1995:-
Rule 9(b) - delete "and subject to (c) (e) below"
Rule 9(c) (ii) - delete
The existing Rule 9(c) (iii) is renumbered 9 (c) (ii)
The existing Rule 9(c) (iv) is renumbered 9 (c) (iii) and amended by deleting "Sub-Rule (iii)" and inserting "Sub-Rule (ii)"
With effect from Saturday 8th April 1995:-
Rule 9(c) (i) - "Subject to (i) below, five Dividends will be paid. The proportion shared by winners at each level over the period between 8th April 1995 and 31st July 1995 will be:-
1st (Highest number of points) 65%,
2nd (second highest number of points) 7%,
3rd (third highest number of points) 6%,
4th (fourth highest number of points) 5%,
5th (fifth highest number of points) 13%".
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Clubs denied services of Scottish players

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THE hazards of an influx of *Scottish players to England's* leading rugby union clubs are being rammed home. With the *Scottish Rugby Union (SRU)* ruling that none of their World Cup squad players can play any more domestic rugby, Bath, West Hartlepool and London Scottish will be unable to call upon those players for the remainder of the season.

The demands this year of the World Cup create an *exception, but against that is* the knowledge that, whenever the SRU lay down ground rules, for their domestic arrangements, English-based players will be obliged to comply or risk losing their *international places. As West Hartlepool and Northampton* each have three incoming Scottish internationals registered for next season, they will be wary.

Bath's position is different in that they have created their own: Andy Reed, David Hilton *and Eric Peters arrived as* English-qualified players but have opted for Scotland, as the eligibility rules permit. None will be available during Bath's defence of the League and Cup next month, nor will Simon Geoghegan be available should Bath reach the Pilkington Cup final on May 6 because Ireland have a warm-up international with Italy that day.

"*It is very disappointing* after all the help we as a club have given Scotland over the years." Brian Ashton, the Bath coach, said. David Sole and Damian Cronin both won international honours from Bath, who have been helping restore Andy Nicol to full health this season since the former Dundee HSFP scrum half moved south.

"We already have to deal with the restrictions imposed upon us by the *England* management," Ashton added. These will force Bath, who *have nine players in En*gland's World Cup squad, to rest any three players in two of their four remaining League games — though not in the Cup semi-final on Saturday against Harlequins or the final.

At the other end of the first division West Hartlepool will lose the services of the *influential* Rob Wainwright and Derrick Patterson as they try to keep their heads above the relegation waters.

Dave Stubbs, their coaching director, said: "*It will be a* blow to lose Rob who has played out of his skin for us, *but I would have thought* Derrick could do with more matches. He is very ring rusty after missing 16 weeks of the season either through injury or acting as a *replacement.*"

West are level with Harlequins on points and three ahead of Northampton in the basement. Northampton will not be permitted the services of Peter Walton, their Scottish flanker, as they struggle for *survival.*

Wasps, still challenging for League and Cup, have chosen the XV that beat Bath last Saturday to meet Leicester in the Cup *semi-final* at Welford Road on Saturday. That means no place for Nick *Greenstock, returning from* the Hong Kong Sevens.

Leicester field the Underwood brothers and Chris Tarbuck continues to deputise at *No 8* for the injured Dean Richards. It may be solace for Richards that he and the 20 *other members of the England* squad that won the grand slam are each to receive two cases of wine by way of a thank you from the Rugby *Football Union. The prove*nance of the wine has not been disclosed — could it be South African?



Peters: switched

Wilkinson finds Bates has the edge



Chris Wilkinson, of Royal Berkshire Premier, stretches to reach a forehand return during his match against Jeremy Bates, of David Lloyd Raynes Park, in the men's final of the Vauxhall Premier Trophy at Nottingham yesterday. Wilkinson had the edge in the opening set, which he won 6-4, but Bates fought back to take the second on a tie-break and added the third set 6-3. Bates's victory gave Raynes Park an unassailable 2-0 lead after the earlier success of Danny Sapsford, a 6-1, 6-1 winner over Paul Hand. Photograph: Andy Heading

RFL adopts official line to erase error

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

THE norm for five years has been five match officials in Australian rugby league, an innovation that starts in earnest on Sunday in the game between Sheffield Eagles and Salford after the first use of in-goal judges last weekend.

The most controversial of recent disputes, in the area behind the posts, was in the reverse fixture in January at the Willows. A late try by Phil Ford secured a 24-20 win for Salford, though television evidence showed he was not close *to touching the ball, an error* by the three officials that incurred the wrath of the Rugby Football League (RFL).

Since his arrival from Australia and his appointment as controller of referees at the RFL last October, Greg McCallum has sought improvements on several fronts. His quickening and cleaning-up of the play-the-ball, the on-report system, by which video evidence is later used to substantiate questionable foul play, and experimental wiring for sound of referees to touch judges have all been enthusiastically received.

There was nothing contentious in the Huddersfield-Bramley match last Sunday *for the new in-goal judges,* who can advise the referee but not make rulings. Recruitment and narrow in-goal areas at many grounds provide problems, but not as great as the close decisions manifest in a faster game.

"Until television cameras behind *the line, there was no* proper questioning of a referee's decision, but in a professional sport this is no longer good enough," McCallum said. "We've seen several unsatisfactory rulings, which in-goal judges would probably have prevented."

In-goal judges and new technology linking touch judges with referees via microphones in their flagsticks are *likely to be features of the* World Cup in England and Wales in October. "It was also at Sheffield that we wired the referee for sound, when the error percentage was lower than I can remember at any other game," McCallum said.

St Helens have halved the asking price for Andy Dannatt, the former Great Britain prop forward, to £30,000 and put Tommy Hodgkinson, Sean Casey, Peter Cannon, Jason Roach and Peter Atherton on the transfer list at a total of £110,000. Atherton is on loan at Whitehaven, who have also signed Anthony Fenlon, the St Helens wing, until the end of the season.

Salford are to sign Scott Martin, 20, of Leigh, in exchange for Steve Wynne, Paul O'Neill and Ged Stazicker.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Conner continues to make waves

DENNIS CONNER and his America's Cup yachting crew performed heroically off San Diego on Tuesday by battling back from damaging their boat on Sunday to beat *Mighty Mary* and regain the advantage for a place in the finals of the Citizen Cup defence finals (Barry Pickthall writes). It was another late night for Conner and his colleagues after Bill Koch and his all-women *Mighty Mary* crew called foul, arguing that the keel fitted overnight to replace the damaged foil on *Stars & Stripes* required consent from each of the three defence camps.

"We were never notified they were doing a keel change," Vincent Moeyersom, the *America³* team manager, said. To defuse the dispute, the San Diego defence committee called *in the relevant parties and, after a highly charged meeting,* barred an appeal to the international race jury.

Botham's new job

SPORTS COUNCIL: Ian Botham, the former England Test cricketer, was yesterday selected as a member of the new 15-strong Sports Council for England. Botham will team up with Chris Boardman, the Olympic gold medal-winning cyclist, Jeff Probyn, the Wasps and England rugby union player, and Trevor Brooking, the former England footballer. Stephen Dorrell, the National Heritage Secretary, said: "The English Council is to concentrate on the development *of sport from the grass roots to the highest competitive* levels."

Soft-shoe shuffle

CRICKET: Players' behaviour towards umpires may be more deferential this summer after the announcement yesterday that the Griggs Group, manufacturers of the famous Dr Martens footwear, are to provide the officials with match shoes for the season (Simon Wilde writes). Other *items of kit supplied in the deal, which is the first of its kind* in English cricket, include a specially produced "mini-coffin" to carry match equipment. The shoes will provide the first-class umpires with cushioned support.

Morgan heads class

GOLF: John Morgan, a former mathematics teacher, plans to stay top of the class when the PGA European Seniors Tour gets under way today with the opening event of the season, the Windsor Senior Masters in Nairobi, Kenya. Morgan, 51, who abandoned teaching to turn professional 26 years ago, is making more money than he did on the European circuit, including 1986, when he won the Jersey Open. He won £39,000 that season yet amassed £60,000 last year when he topped the seniors' order of merit.

McCracken sees light

BOXING: Robert McCracken, the British light-middleweight champion, has opted to remain at the 11st weight category rather than move up a division and will meet Wilson Smith, of the United States, at Dudley Town Hall on April 30. McCracken, unbeaten in 22 bouts, intends to challenge for the world title. Initially, however, he is likely to offer a return to Paul Wesley, also of Birmingham, whom he beat last month in his second championship defence.

Bell's chance improves

SKIING: Martin Bell, who had to delay his arrival in Tignes, France, for the British national championships because of domestic problems, saw his chances of an historic fourth combined title boosted yesterday when adverse weather forced the programme to be cancelled. Rescheduling means that Bell, 30, can concentrate on his three best events — the giant slalom, super-giant slalom and downhill. Two wins and a top-five finish would give him the title.

SPORTS LETTERS

Hard lines for Hull

From Dr V. Goldberg

Sir, Jack Rowell, the manager, may well describe Paul Hull's omission from England's Rugby World Cup squad as "sensitive" (report, March 28). Hull was widely *held to be the* outstanding success of England's tour to South Africa last year as a truly attacking full back.

Although a reliable goal-kicker is needed as a deputy to Rob Andrew, which is *Jon Callard's role,* Hull surely could have been selected as a utility back, as he can play at *stand-off half as well as full* back and wing.

Hull's fitness record, apart from the recent Achilles tendon troubles, has also been very good; he is familiar with South African conditions and could be expected to perform reliably on the hard grounds.

Yours faithfully,
VALERIE GOLDBERG,
6 Hollycroft Avenue,
Wembley, Middlesex.

Drive against innovation

From Mr M. I. Webb

Sir, Motor racing has, as one of its aims, the pursuit of *excellence for both man and* machine. If the sport is now to inhibit innovation, then Hill, Schumacher and Coulthard might as well be racing in pedal cars with unsupercharged overhead kneecaps.

Yours sincerely,
MAURICE WEBB,
Smiddy House,
Auchencrow,
Berwickshire.

From Mr Barry Brough

*Sir, Has the effect of dehydra*tion been considered with reference to Michael Schu*macher's weight discrepancy* at the Brazilian Grand Prix (report, March 28)?

In July 1989 at the Coupe de la Jeunesse rowing event in Italy, I was at pains to explain the effects of dehydration to our competitors. To this end I weighed each member of the men's eight on the landing stage prior to taking to the water.

They paddled up to the start (15-20 minutes), waited up there for *15 minutes or so,* raced back (5½ minutes), collected their gold medals (15 minutes) and I weighed them again on disembarkation. The average weight loss (excluding the cox) was 2.5kg and the largest oarsman lost 5kg.

Yours faithfully,
BARRY BROUGH (Doctor to the British rowing team),
32 Velmore Road,
Chandlers Ford, Hampshire.

Sports Letters may be sent *by fax to 0171-782 5211.* They must include a daytime telephone number.

Weight not all in Boat Race

From Mr J. R. Micklethwait

Sir, As a coxswain, I was surprised to read in the report of the Boat Race weigh-in (March 28) that Abbie Chapman, of Oxford, "won the cox's contest ..." by weighing in lighter than her Cambridge counterpart, thereby implying *that the primary function of a* cox is to be light.

Coxing involves steering, coaching and the use of psychology in a race, as well as being "diminutive". The first of these is particularly relevant to the Tideway, since it has such a fast stream, and steering the correct course could alter the outcome of any *race on this river.*

In the race an aggressive course and effective motivation are needed. *The cox must* perform to his/her best ability just the same as the oarsmen.

Yours sincerely,
JAMES MICKLETHWAIT
(Captain of Boats,
Shrewsbury School),
Penhein, nr Chepstow, Gwent.

From Mr John G. Coll

Sir, "Oxford bank on bulk" says the headline (March 28). Surely a strength-to-weight ratio is more important then bulk alone. After all, the boat has to be moved *through* the water. I am writing, of course, *as a mere 11-stone weakling.*

Yours faithfully,
JOHN G. COLL,
68 Rugby Avenue,
Bangor, Co. Down.

Honest comment

From Mr D. L. Smith

Sir, Mr J. G. M. Watt (Sports Letters, March 23) takes exception to Brian Moore's "ill-*mannered comments" in the* aftermath of the England v Scotland rugby union grand slam decider, and would rather listen to Will Carling and Rob Andrew chant their litany of "all credit to Scotland/Wales/France, etc. — they played proudly and the important thing is we managed to win ..."

How crushingly boring. It's precisely the type of comments from Moore that most sports *fans love to hear: they are* heat-of-the-moment, they are honest, they reflect the true nature of the game, and the passions invoked in the cauldron of top-level sport, and in today's sanitised, squeaky-clean world, they give the watchers a rallying point when trying to come to terms with a game which was not "a great sporting occasion" as Mr Watt says, but was actually ruined as a spectacle.

Let's be honest, the Scots came to avoid a hammering, and did so by taking every *advantage possible of a weak* referee. All Brian Moore did was say it like it was. The truth *is never sour grapes, especial*ly if the game is won.

Yours sincerely,
D. L. SMITH,
12 Glossop Road,
Sanderstead, Surrey.

Hope for England

From Mr C. A. Chang

Sir, England's cricketing record of 26 Tests, five wins over the period 1992-95 may be compared to that of West *Indies over the period 1968-72.*

They also played 26 Tests, winning two matches but none of the six series involved. Eight years later they started their run of not losing a series, which stands to date. Is there hope for England?

Yours etc.,
CARL CHANG,
High Vinnalls, College Road,
Bath, Avon.

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eat tortellini carbonara
first direct
the 24hr, person to person, telephone banking service that will fit into your life whenever it's convenient.
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SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

Today's Refresher is about a common form of reasoning used when you are deciding what to discard.

You are East. *The opposition have bid One Spade - Two* Hearts - Two Spades - Four Spades.

♠A85
♥A7642
♦Q93
♣Q2

	♠64
W E	♥K93
	♦8762
S	♣KJ94

Your partner leads the ace of clubs and plays a club to your king, declarer following. You play a diamond, taken by your *partner's ace, and he returns another diamond. The declarer* wins and plays six rounds of trumps, your partner following twice and then discarding two clubs and two hearts. The declarer cashes the king of diamonds, your partner following. That leaves this position with you to play:

♠-
♥A4
♦-
♣-

	♠-
W E	♥K3
	♦-
S	♣J

Do you keep your king of hearts guarded, or hang on grimly to the jack of clubs? In other words, are the declarer's last two cards a heart and a club, or two hearts?

Players can go into amazing contortions in this position, trying to read great significance into their partner's discards. But this *one is quite simple. The declarer is known to have six spades,* three diamonds and at least two clubs. If he had a third club he had plenty of opportunities to ruff it in dummy. So throw the club and keep the king of hearts. This was the declarer's hand:

♠KQJ1092 ♥Q10 ♦KJ10 ♣65

The thinking is a simple example of the technique I have described before - ask yourself 'would he have done this if he had that'. In this case, "would he have drawn all the trumps if he had a losing club?'

■ Tony Waterlow and Paul Hackett have won the silver medal in the Philip Morris European Pairs Championship in Rome. This is the best performance in the event by a British pair for several years. The winners were Gawrys and Lasocki of Poland. In the Senior Pairs, won by the Poles Nowak and Stobiecki, Heather Hobson and Roy Garthwaite of Yorkshire were fourth.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

FOLIE DE DOUTE
a. Obsessive indecision
b. Misplaced mistrust
c. A type of strawberry

FULSOME
a. Enthusiastic
b. Appreciative
c. Over-the-top

ENORMITY
a. Enormousness
b. Not normal
c. Monstrous wickedness

DAPATICAL
a. Depressing
b. Sumptuous
c. Vacational

Answers on page 42

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Long career

The chess career of Sir Stuart Milner-Barry covered virtually the whole of the modern chess movement. *Sir Stuart* died over the weekend and was *Times* chess correspondent from 1938 to 1945. It is a remarkable fact that only 111 years spans the time from the very first chess article ever to appear in *The Times* (the obit*uary of the French master* Philidor in 1795) until Milner-Barry's birth in 1906, and that his life covered a further 89 years.

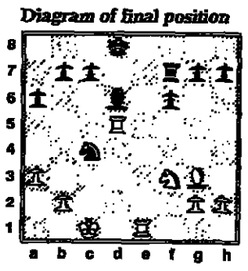
During Sir Stuart's lifetime all but one (namely Steinitz) of the 13 world chess champions held sway. Curiously, though, it was to the 19th century that Sir Stuart looked for his chess *inspiration* in the setting out of his game. He was particularly fond of the slashing attacks to be derived from the Vienna and King's Gambits. The following game is a case in point.

White: Sir Stuart Milner-Barry
Black: Dr A. Speyer
England v Holland match, 1937

King's Gambit

1	e4	e5
2	f4	d5
3	Nc3	exf4
4	Qf3	dxe4
5	Qxe4+	Qe7
6	d4	Nc6
7	Qxe7+	Bxe7
8	Bb5	Bd7
9	Bxd4	0-0-0
10	Nf3	a6
11	Bc4	Be8
12	0-0-0	Nf6
13	Rhe1	Bd6
14	Bg5	Nb8
15	Ne5	Rf8
16	Nd5	Nxd5
17	Bxd8	Nb6
18	Bh4	f6
19	Be6+	Kd8
20	Nf3	Nc6
21	Bg3	Bf7
22	d5	Nb4
23	a3	N4xd5
24	Bxf7	Rxf7
25	c4	Nxc4
26	Rxd5	Black resigns

Diagram of final position



Rapid play

The Mortimer Arms Chess Club is holding its second annual rapid play chess tournament on Saturday April 1. The competition will be divided into two graded sections with prizes for those rated under 150 and those rated under 90. For information or if you want to play ring 0181-341 7472.

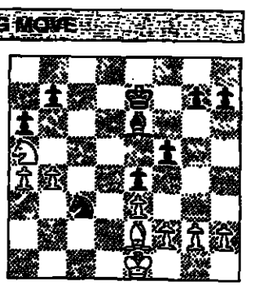
Correction

The game published yesterday between Sir Stuart Milner-Barry and José Capablanca was played at Margate.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Lautier - Illescas, Linares 1995. In this innocent-looking endgame, White has just carelessly placed his knight on a5. How did Black now expose this as a bad blunder?



Solution, page 42

(770707401) 2.50-3.20 Shortland Street (17373526) Legion (7500) (70450) 12.00 Money, Money Islands (4316090) 3.00 The Greatest Classic 7.00am Give Us a Clue (8121183) 7.30 9.00 Special Forces (7967176) 9.30 Anthony 9.00 Sirens (4586) 9.30 Benny (7851491)

Scot adopts caution as rival withdraws on run-in to London Marathon

McColgan distances herself from the hype

BY DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

IT WAS a strangely reticent Liz McColgan who was called on yesterday by the NutraSweet London Marathon to look into the crystal ball for the race on Sunday. McColgan, it appears, has given up telling her fortune in public.

For once, McColgan was trying to prevent hype from being her pacemaker. Though she said she was "excited" and "looking forward to getting out there", she refused to talk about how fast she might run, or give details of her recent training.

For all her achievements on the track, at cross country and in half-marathons, McColgan is still an unproven marathon runner. She has run the distance three times but is not among the 35 fastest women. In the British rankings, she trails Veronique Marot's 2hr 25min 56sec in London in 1989 and Priscilla Welch's 2:26.51, on the same course, in 1987.

McColgan won the 1991 New York Marathon with what was then the fastest debut, 2hr 27min 32sec, but she has yet to improve on that. In New York she talked about breaking 2hr 20min, referred to the achievements of Grete Waitz and Ingrid Kristiansen as "a stepping-stone, not barriers," and generally gave the impression that the marathon was child's play.

"Brash", Lisa Ondieki, the double Commonwealth champion, called her. "Two athletes with developed egos," David Bedford, the London elite field director, said of Ondieki and McColgan before the 1993 race in which the unassuming Katrin Dorre, of Germany, beat both of them.

A combination of injuries have kept McColgan, 30, away from the international sharp end for two years. Sensibly, in the circumstances, she said yesterday that a victory on Sunday in a competitive field — Dorre is seeking a fourth successive win — was all she was concerned with.

"I am not worried about time at all," McColgan said. "It is a big race and it is more important to win." Briefly, the devil urging her on to mischief reappeared. "But, then again," McColgan added, "if it is fast, I am not worried about that either." Otherwise, McColgan was unassuming.

One injury after another, including knee surgery, have frustrated McColgan, not to mention costing her a small fortune in lost earnings. Any problems now? "Nothing at all," she said yesterday. "I have been in full training for eight months."

Normally, McColgan would go into details. When she did so in New York in 1991, Carey Pinkowski, the Chicago Marathon race director, could not believe his ears. "Her training indicates 2hr 17min," he said. "She could revolutionise the sport."

McColgan was asked to confirm reports of high-mileage running but suggested they were hearsay. "I have not said anything about the training I have been doing," she said. "I do not really want to comment on my training. It is something now I think I should keep to myself and then no one will say 'you are doing too much' or 'you are doing too little'."

If McColgan can convert her performances in recent shorter-distance road races into a comparable marathon, she should be heading for 2:24 to 2:26. She recorded 48min 59sec for 15 kilometres in February and 69min 49sec for a half-marathon two weeks ago.

However, McColgan said she had been suffering from a swollen windpipe which had affected her breathing in the half-marathon and the race had been a "big disappointment" to her. Her breathing is fine now.

No sooner had McColgan finished than Peter, her husband, was talking of possible legal action over advice given in relation to one of her injuries. He said that medical specialists had been consulted and, once reports were in, a solicitor would be engaged "to see where we go, if anywhere".

Had she built on her New York Marathon and 10,000 metres world championship success in 1991, McColgan could have expected to earn close to £500,000 a year. Fortunately for her, before her troubles began, London signed her up to run three of the four marathons from 1993 to 1996 for £450,000.

She appears confident the injury troubles are behind her. Some people have written her off, but she is determined the story will not finish there. McColgan may be encouraged by the example of Derartu Tulu, the Ethiopian who won the women's world cross country title in Durham on Saturday. Tulu had been fighting injury even longer than McColgan, since just after winning the Olympic 10,000 metres in 1992. A knee injury no less.

NUTRASWEET LONDON MARATHON '95
IN ASSOCIATION WITH BUPA
Only in *The Times* next week: the complete list of London Marathon finishers


ROBIN MAYES

McColgan, in London yesterday, refused to talk about how fast she might run

Heel injury forces Ondieki to miss race

BY DAVID POWELL

LISA ONDIEKI, runner-up for the past two years, has withdrawn from the race on Sunday because of an injury to her right Achilles tendon, it was announced yesterday. Ondieki's manager, Jos Hermens, notified the marathon organisers on Tuesday afternoon after the athlete had suffered the injury while training in Zurich.

Ondieki, the Australian record-holder with 2hr 23min 51sec, reduces to three the number of women Liz McColgan considers to be rivals for victory in the women's race. McColgan said yesterday that Katrin Dorre, the defending champion from Germany, Manuela Machado, from Portugal, and Renate Kokowska, from Poland, were the athletes she feared. However, Kim Jones and Cathy O'Brien, both from the United States, need to be watched as well.

Although Ondieki's best time was recorded in 1988, she set a New York Marathon course record of 2hr 24min 40sec in 1992 and, after recording 31min 47.11sec for 10,000 metres in December, set an Australian , 5,000 metres record of 15min 28.16sec in February. The absence of Ondieki, 34, is a disappointment for the organisers but by no means a devastating blow.

Machado, the European champion and world silver medal-winner, and Dorre, who ran her fastest time of 2hr 25min 15sec in her 31st marathon when she won in Berlin last autumn, are a formidable pair.

☐ Antoni Niemczak, the Polish marathon runner, will be banned for two years pending a hearing by his national federation after testing positive for a banned drug for the second time. Christopher Winner, of the International Amateur Athletic Federation, said yesterday that Niemczak had tested positive for the stimulant, ephredrine, at the Tokyo international marathon on February 12.

Niemczak, 29, had already been banned for two years after testing positive for the steroid, nandrolone, at the 1986 New York marathon.

RADIO CHOICE

Theatre with 100m seats

Globe Theatre 95: Banishing Lucifer. *Radio 4, 2.00pm.*

If they choose to, an estimated 100 million people could listen to Hattie Naylor's metaphysical play. That is the kind of wondrous thing that happens when Radio 4 and the World Service pool their artistic and technical resources. I doubt if the next five plays in this *Globe Theatre* season will be as cosmic in theme as *Banishing Lucifer* is universal in audience reach. Kate Fenwick plays the adolescent on each of whose shoulders an angel perches. One is a paradigm for destruction, the other for salvation. They are played by Cathy Murphy and Trevor Peacock. But such is the deliberately ambiguous nature of Naylor's writing that you may end up not knowing for certain which is the goody and which the baddy.

The Great British Country Music Awards. *Radio 2, 7.30pm.*

The awards night was staged a fortnight ago at the BBC's Birmingham studios, and I believe there was not an empty seat in the house. Surprisingly, it was the first time a full-scale country music awards ceremony had been seen in Britain. Tonight's recording was predestined for Radio 2; the network has done more than any other to promote the cause of country music. This was acknowledged when one of the awards for the all-time favourite country music star was named the Radio 2/*Radio Times* award. *British Country*, which Neil Coppendale presents on Radio 2 at 10pm, complements the coverage of the Birmingham ceremony.

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

FM Stereo **4.00am** Bruno Brookes **6.30** Steve Wright **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Lisa I'Anson, including at **12.30-12.45pm** Newsbeat **2.00** Nicky Campbell **4.00** Clive Warren, including at **4.20** The Amazing Sorderman; and at **5.30-5.45** Newsbeat **7.00** Evening Session **9.00** Soundbite **10.00** Mark Radcliffe **12.00-4.00am** Mark Tonderai

RADIO 2

FM Stereo **6.00am** Martin Kelner **6.15** Pause for Thought **7.30** Sarah Kennedy **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Gloria Hunniford **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Marc Blake's Whining for England **7.30** The Great British Country Music Awards: See Choice **9.00** Paul Jones: including bluesman Tinsley Ellis and his band **10.00** British Country **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Colin Berry **3.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports **6.00** The Breakfast Programme **8.35** The Magazine, including at **9.40** Film Review; **10.35** Euronews, **11.00** Gut Reaction **12.00** Midday with Mair, including at **12.34pm** Moneycheck **2.05** Ruscoe on Five, including at **3.15** Prime Minister's Question Time **4.00** John Inverdale Nationwide **7.00** News Extra, including at **7.20** sport **7.35** Women on Top **8.35** Chris Rea Goes Into . . . Angling **9.05** Sports America **10.05** News Talk **11.00** Night Extra, including at **11.45** The Financial World Tonight **12.05am** Night Moves **2.05** Up All Night

TALK RADIO

6.00am Maurice Dee, Carol McGiffin **10.00** Scott Chisholm **1.00pm** Anna Raeburn **3.00** Tommy Boyd **7.00** Samantha Meah, Sean Bolger **10.00** Caesar **1.00am** Al Kelly

WORLD SERVICE

All times in BST. **4.30am** BBC English **4.45** Fruhmagazin **5.00** News **5.05** *Notes for a Respectable* **5.45** From Our Own Correspondent **6.00** Morgenmagazin **6.30** Europe **7.00** News **7.15** The World Today **7.30** Sport **8.00** News **8.15** *Notes from a Respectable Cockroach* **8.30** Network UK **9.00** News **9.10** Words of Faith **9.15** Books **9.30** John Peel **10.00** News **10.05** Business **10.15** From Our Own Correspondent **10.30** Farming **10.45** Sport **11.00** News **11.01** Assignment **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin **12.00** News **12.30pm** A Trick of the Light **1.00** News **1.16** Words of Faith **1.15** Multitrack **1.45** Sport **2.00** News **3.05** Outlook **3.30** *Notes from a Respectable Cockroach* **3.45** Learning **4.00** News **4.15-BBC** English **4.30** Heute Aktuell **5.00** News **5.15** BBC English **6.00** News and Business **6.30** Heute Aktuell **7.00** Newsdesk **7.30** On the Move **7.45** Farming **8.00** News **8.05** Outlook **8.30** Europe **9.00** News **9.10** Words of Faith **9.15** World Today **9.30** Meridian **10.00** News **11.05** Business **11.15** Network UK **11.45** Sport **12.00** Newsdesk **12.30am** Two Cheers for March **1.00** News **1.15** Music **2.00** News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** On the Move **2.45** Global Concerns **3.00** News **3.30** A Trick of the Light **4.00** News **4.15** Sport **3.30** Focus on Faith **4.00** News

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto **3.00** Jamie Crick **6.00** Classic Reports **7.00** The Travel Guide **8.00** Evening Concert **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00am** Mark Griffiths

VIRGIN

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono **9.00** Richard Skinner **12.00** Graham Dene **4.00pm** Wendy Lloyd **7.00** Paul Coyte **11.00** Nick Abbot **2.00am** Janey Lee Grace

RADIO 3

6.30am Open University: Class in Britain Today **6.55** Weather
7.00 On Air, with Andrew McGregor. Including Praetorius (Der Tag vertreibt die finster Nacht); Bach (Brandenburg Concerto No 1 in F); **7.35** *Quartet Collection*: Haydn (String Quartet in B flat, Op 76 No 4, Sunrise); Scarlatti (Sonata in G, Kk547); Strauss (Wiegenlied); Bax (The Garden of Fand)
9.00 Composer of the Week: Pierre Boulez at 70, presented by Peter-Paul Nash
10.00 Musical Encounters, with Chris Wines. Respighi (Ancient Airs and Dances, Suite No 2); Howells (The Scribe); Ireland (The Hills); **10.28** *Artist of the Week*: Dinu Lipatti, piano; Liszt (Petrarch Sonnet 104, Années de pèlerinage); Monteverdi (Tirsi e Clori); Verdi (String Quartet in E minor); Moeran (Love is a Sickness, Songs of Springtime); Warlock (The Full Heart); Mozart (Flute Quartet in G, K285a); Murrill (Songs from Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*); Gibbs (How can the heart forget her? Elizabethan Lyrics: Finzi Singers under Paul Spicer)
12.00 Ensemble (r)
1.00 The Boston Romantics: The final programme features the music of Amy Marcy Cheney Beach. With contributions from Steven Ledbetter and Alan Feinberg
2.00 Schools: Radio O and A **2.05** In the News **2.25** Something to Think About — Infant Assemblies **2.40** Music Workshop — Music Course 3 Orpheus
3.00 Orchestra of the Eighteenth Century under Frans Brüggen, with Cyndia Sieden, soprano. Beethoven (Incidental music, The Creatures of Prometheus, excerpts); Mozart (Concert arias, Nehmt meinen Dank, ihr holden Gönner! K383); Alcandro, lo confesso . . . Non so d'onde viene, K294, Vorrei spiegarvi, oh Dio, K418); Beethoven (Symphony No 5 in C minor)
5.00 The Music Machine
5.15 In Tune, including Schubert (Die Forelle, D550); Mozart (Piano Sonata in A minor, K310); Mendelssohn (Violin Concerto in E minor)
7.30 Musica Britannica: Tavener Consort and Players under Andrew Parrott. Blow (O Sing unto the Lord a new song); Boyce (Overture, Ode for the New Year); Greene (Ode on St Cecilia's Day)
9.30 Diary of a Composition, with Simon Bainbridge
9.50 Obbligato Cello: Friedrich Dotzauer (Quartet, Op 64: Anner Bylsma, cello, Vera Beths and Joy Getwood, violins, and Lisa Rautenberg, viola)
10.15 Time and Changes: The pianist and composer Stan Tracey in conversation (r)
10.45 Night Waves in New York: Christopher Cook sees the Big Apple through the lens of the film-maker, and listens to the language of its writers
11.30-12.30am Voices: A recital by Paul Whelan, baritone, with Julius Drake, piano
1.00-1.30 Night School: Scene on Radio — The winning entry: from idea to script

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping **6.00** News; Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today incl **7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **7.25, 8.25** Sport **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 The Moral Maze, with Michael Buerk, *Times* columnist Janet Daley, Rabbi Hugo Gryn, Edward Pearce and Dr David Starkey
10.00-10.30 News; After Eden (FM only): The final part of the drama series by Alison Leonard about a woman priest. With Christine Pritchard
10.00 Daily Service (LW only)
10.15 Something Understood (LW only): Bread of Dreams, a new spiritual anthology. Read by Sudha Bhuchar and Amardeep Kaushal
10.30 Woman's Hour, introduced by Jenni Murray. Serial: *The Normal Man*
11.30 From Our Own Correspondent
12.00 News; You and Yours, with Tasneem Siddiqi
12.25pm Questions of Taste (r) **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Globe Theatre 95: Banishing Lucifer. See Choice
3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope: Paul Allen reviews *The Memorandum*, a play by Vaclav Havel
4.45 Short Story: The Shades of Spring, by D.H. Lawrence. Read by Peter Meakin
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 Paradise Lost In Space: Tony Robinson and David Haig star in Colin Swash's six-part space-age comedy
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Soundtrack: Mangala's Story. Charlotte Bloxfield reports on the plight of 28-year-old Mangala Sharma. Three years ago, she fled her home in the kingdom of Bhutan and now lives with her doctor husband and two small daughters at a refugee camp in eastern Nepal
8.00 Analysis: Andrew Dilnot examines the assumption that scientific discovery is fundamental to the fortunes of modern nations
8.45 Stranger than Fiction: Thriller writer Reg Gadney relates two stories of death which helped to shape his childhood
9.00 Does He Take Sugar? Magazine for listeners with disabilities
9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight
10.45 Book at Bedtime: Gulf, by Robert Westall. Read by Paul Panting
11.00 A Journey, by Edith Wharton. The last of three American plays. While travelling home by train from Colorado, a New Yorker discovers that her husband is dead. With Karen White and Jim Nutter
11.30-12.00 Postcard from Gotham (FM only) (r)
11.30 Today in Parliament (LW)
12.00-12.43am News Incl **12.27** Weather **12.33** Shipping Forecast **12.43** As World Service (LW only)

RADIO 1: FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2: FM-88-90.2. RADIO 3: FM-90.2-92.4. RADIO 4: 198kHz/1515m; FM-92.4-94.6; LW 198. RADIO 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. LONDON RADIO: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. CAPITAL: 1548kHz/194m; FM-95.8. GLR: FM 94.9. WORLD SERVICE: MW 648kHz/463m; LW 198Khz (12.45am-5.55am). CLASSIC FM: FM-100-102. VIRGIN: MW-1215, 1197, 1242 kHz. TALK RADIO: MW 1089, 1053kHz. Listings compiled by Peter Dear, Gillian Money.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

UNIBOND LEAGUE: First division: Ashton United v Warrington Cup: Semi-final, second leg: Chorley v Bamber Bridge President's Cup: Semi-final, second leg: Spennymoor v Lancaster

DIADORA LEAGUE: Second division: Aveley v Hungerford, Hemel Hempstead v Banstead Cup: Semi-final, second leg: Marlow v Aylesbury.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Rushden and Diamonds v Gravesend and Northfleet. Midland division: Buckingham Town v Ilkeston

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Barnstaple v Tiverton

SKOL MIDLAND COMBINATION: Premier division: Olton Royale v Meir KA.

PONTINS LEAGUE: First division: Blackburn v Tranmere (at Wigan FC, 7.0): Stoke v Bolton (7.0).

ALLBRIGHT BITTER WELSH CUP: Semi-final, first leg: Wrexham v Merthyr

CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Trafford v Bacup.

BERKS AND BUCKS SENIOR CUP: Semi-final: Reading v Newbury.

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Felixstowe v Great Yarmouth

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Thatcham v Ryde Sports.

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Ramsgate v Beckenham.

MINERVA SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: O'Brien Butchers Challenge Trophy: Quarter-final: Arlesey Town v Wingate and Finchley.

SCHOOLS MATCHES: NW Woodward Cup: Semi-final: Liverpool v Bury (at Penny Lane, 6.0).

OTHER SPORT

BOXING: British lightweight championship: Michael Ayers (Tooting, holder) v Karl Taylor (Birmingham) (Crystal Palace).

SPEEDWAY: Premier League: Ipswich v Cradley Heath.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	Off/p	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm)	°C	Last snow
AUSTRIA								
Lech	175	330	powder	powder	powder	snow	0	29/3
(Snowing heavily with blizzard conditions)								
Mayrhofen	5	100	good	powder	closed	snow	-2	29/3
(Fresh snow everywhere, visibility poor, outlook good)								
Obergurgl	60	165	good	powder	good	snow	-8	29/3
(20cm fresh snow, glorious powder skiing)								
FRANCE								
Alpe d'Huez	250	480	good	powder	good	snow	-3	29/3
(Blizzard conditions but fabulous powder out of the wind)								
Avoriaz	330	420	good	powder	good	snow	-8	29/3
(Great snow but white-out conditions limit skiing)								
Tignes	230	290	powder	powder	powder	snow	-8	29/3
(Tricky conditions, high winds and snowfall)								
Val Thorens	220	375	powder	powder	powder	snow	-5	29/3
(Snowing hard, little open, prospects superb)								
SWITZERLAND								
Arosa	120	160	good	powder	good	snow	-7	23/3
(Heavy snowfalls, deep powder, tricky skiing)								
Mürren	130	290	good	powder	good	snow	-6	29/3
(Fresh powder everywhere, poor light but outlook great)								

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain L - lower slopes; U - upper; art - artificial.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 39

FOLIE DE DOUTE
(a) Pathologically obsessive doubt about anything and everything done by the sufferer. At once the most touching and the most charming of neuroses.

FULSOME
(c) Excessive, cloying through surfeit. As, for example, the wild praise given by a British sports commentator to the performance of the British swimmer who has just come last in the first heat of her event in the Commonwealth Games. Derived from *full*, it is applicable only to praise. One does not speak of *fulsome abuse* or *fulsome criticism*. The word is changing its meaning because of the widespread belief that it means *whole-hearted* or *generous (praise)*. *Fulsome* should be a pejorative epithet.

ENORMITY
(c) Monstrous wickedness, not, as it is often misused, enormousness or vastness, or the quality of being enormous. Both *enormous* and *enormity* come from the same Latin root meaning out of the ordinary, but they have drifted so far apart that it has become difficult to use *enormity* in its proper sense without sounding pedantic. "Cheer up, Mary-Anne. To split an infinitive in your first sentence was no doubt imprudent. But in spite of the rage of the readers, it is not such an enormity as they pretend."

DAPATICAL
(b) Sumptuous, delicious, applied to such feasts as those given by City livery companies and Oxbridge colleges, from the Latin *dapes* a feast.

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 ... Nxe2 3 Kxe2 Bd5! and White is helpless against ... b6 winning the errant knight.

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£25,000 – £49,999	5.25%	5.35%	3.94%	4.00%
£50,000 and over	5.65%	5.77%	4.24%	4.31%

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A sense of loss and a sense of proportion

REVIEW



Peter Barnard

In the chapel of rest a body is decorously placed so as to be a dignified sight for those who have come to mourn. Outside, gravestones etched with home-produced poetry, or with simple phrases meant to summarise the relationship of the mourned to the mourners, dapple the close-mown grass. A man looks wistful: "There were more friends at Kim's interment than there probably will be at mine."

Kim was a dog. The body in the chapel of rest is that of a dog. The words on the gravestones refer to dogs, cats, a guinea pig. This is the British, parted from their pets. To mock would not be hard but **Modern Times: Goodbye, Dear Friend** (BBC 2) did not mock and nor shall I.

There is, however, a case for wondering if people nearly inconsolable at the sight of a dead animal have quite got things in proportion. There is a case for startlement when a couple, their children grown up, talk about their two dogs and their new grandchild and appear to say that the former are more important to them than the latter.

Naturally one can sympathise, indeed empathise, with the widow for whom her sole remaining companion, a dog, had been a keen and vital comfort. Obviously the blind woman whose guide dog dies has been in a very special relationship, one beyond the understanding of a sighted person lacking that dependence.

Clearly, as a dog owner, one can see how the absolute loyalty of these animals in return for the basics of life tends to produce an emotional response, much as babies are loved in part for their dependent adoration.

Goodbye, Dear Friend was in many ways a moving film and deserves credit for avoiding the cheap-shot tendency to ridicule. The programme made no judgments, letting the participants speak for themselves. We saw a remarkable and caring woman in Janet Thomas, who runs a Peak District veterinary hospital and spends as much emotional energy comforting owners as she does technical expertise in "putting to sleep" their pets.

A burly man just parted from his pet wonders aloud how he would feel if "they bring in euthanasia", it being hard enough to sanction that end for a dog let alone one's parents. But herein lay the root of the unease this documentary engendered, for putting down a dog and ending the life of a person are not remotely the same thing.

But if we insist on making the furniture of animal death no different from the furniture of human death — the gravestone, the casket, the chapel of rest, even the presence of a cleric — then we lose our sense of the order of things, which can be as demeaning of humanity as it is of our pets.

You can be sure that a lot more people watched *Modern Times last night than tuned into* **Two Hours from London**, a documentary for *Open Space* (BBC 2) made by Michael Foot and Jill Craigie, his wife. Foot could not get a network interested in financing this project so he mortgaged his pension to raise the money.

I happen to think that the West should not have spent so much as a minute in the former Yugoslavia. Foot thinks we have been disgracefully inept and disgracefully under-involved. Oddly enough, these views are not entirely irreconcilable and this powerful film was worth whatever financial sacrifice Foot made.

In the clearest terms, he exposed the lunacy of Western shilly-shallying, which has left the hideous Serb aggressors laughing their socks off. Assorted Western negotiators march across the screen — Carrington, Vance, Owen, Stoltenberg — bearing maps, ceasefire agreements and pious hopes about men of goodwill.

The United Nations sits on its hands, except when one of them is raised to agree a new initiative nobody has any intention of enforcing. The Foot-Craigie film ends with the latest "deal", under which Serbia would have 50 per cent of Bosnia. The thief has stolen a loaf, and his punishment is that he can keep only half of it.

Foot is right that we should have armed the Croatians and the Slovenians and indeed the Bosnian Muslims, but he made no convincing case for further Western involvement, an involvement which strikes me as part of the problem, not the solution.

Still, there is not much wrong with a world that has had the wit to reinvent **University Challenge** (BBC 2), which reached the final last night under the new chairmanship of Jeremy Paxman. I expect Paxman is glad of this extra string to his bow, now that John Birt has taken against him for asking politicians nasty questions.

Paxman is an able successor to Bamber Gascoigne, who turned up all suave and smiling to present the trophy last night. In an Oxford and Cambridge universities final, Trinity College, Cambridge amassed 390 points against New College, Oxford, who managed only 180 points.

Paxman gamely kept the show alive by reminding us, several times, that New College had come back from the dead in every round leading to the final, but Trinity refused to follow the script. One of their number even knew that "karaoke" was the Japanese for "empty orchestra", confirming the suspicion that *Trivial Pursuit* is as handy a swot for *University Challenge* as anything in a university library.

The star of the show was Trinity's Kwasi Kwarteng, a classics student who seemed to know absolutely everything. Brilliant chap, terrific mind. So don't expect him to succeed in life.

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (18252)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (95635382)
9.05 Kilroy (s) (5786653)
10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather(Ceefax) (7171634) **10.05 EastEnders — The Early Days** (r) (Ceefax) (8188837)
10.35 Good Morning with Anne and Nick. Family magazine (s) (7423301)
12.00 News; Regional News and Weather; Weather (Ceefax) (1939092)
12.05pm Pebble Mill (s) (7705905)
12.55 **Regional News and Weather** *(15338011)*
1.00 One O' Clock News and Weather (Ceefax) (80450) **1.30 Neighbours** (s) (Ceefax) (77082585)
1.50 Going for Gold with the affable Henry Kelly at the helm (s) (77086301)
2.15 FILM: Bonanza The Next Generation (1988) The late Ben Cartwright's brother has taken over the Ponderosa in this film sequel to the television series. (191382)
3.50 Jackanory: The Twitches at Chrissy-Mess (s) (8362479) **4.00 Robinson Sucroe** (Ceefax) (9599276) ***4.25* Animal Hospital** (s) (4736160)
4.35 Mud (s) (Ceefax) (1074295)
5.00 Newsround (2779479)
***5.05* The Machine Gunners** *(r) (Ceefax) (6575127)*
5.35 Neighbours (r) (s) (Ceefax) (177818)
6.00 Six O' Clock News and Weather (Ceefax) (547)
***6.30* Regional news magazines** *(127)*
7.00 Top of the Pops (s) (Ceefax) (7092)
7.30 EastEnders (s) (Ceefax) (951)
8.00 Animal Hospital Week. In the last of the series, Rolf Harris looks back at cases he has encountered (s) (Ceefax) (6740)
8.30 Crown Prosecutor Lenny has a case which is not quite as it appears. (s) (Ceefax) (2547)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News; Regional News; Weather (Ceefax) (8943)



Lumley and Saunders in New York (9.30pm)

9.30 CHOICE Absolutely Fabulous (s) (Ceefax) (38450)
10.00 Men Behaving Badly. Gary invents a rampant sexual history (r). (s) (Ceefax) (52419)
10.30 Question Time. Facing the questions this week are Education Secretary Gillian Shephard, Shadow Trade and Industry Secretary Jack Cunningham, author Frederic Raphael and Diana Maddock, Liberal Democrat spokesman on housing (Ceefax) (62363) **Wales:** The Slate (19837) **11.00** Question Time (81407) **12.00** Cagney and Lacey (5558412) **12.45** FILM: The Club (958290) **2.20** News Headlines (7852764)
11.30 Cagney and Lacey: A Fair Shake. Christine and Mary Beth realise that a case is threatening their lives and careers. (r) (Ceefax) (555547)
12.15am FILM: The Club (1980). A former soccer star and fading coach takes on the management of the game. (Ceefax) (378870)
1.50 Weather (6186615)

BBC2

6.20 Open University
8.00 Breakfast News (Ceefax and signing) (6065295)
8.15 Westminster On-Line with Andrew Neil (s) (4553818)
***9.00* Daytime on Two**. *Educational programmes. Plus,* for children, **10.00-10.25** Playdays (8199943) **1.45** Storytime (25661011) **2.00** Stoppit and Tidyup (65210011) **2.05** Puppydog Tales (65219382)
***2.10* Made by Man.** *The craft of the cartwright* (39016363) **2.30 From the Edge.** (Ceefax) (160)
3.00 News and weather followed by **Westminster with Nick Ross** (Ceefax) (4671127) **3.50 News** (Ceefax) and weather *(8353721)*
4.00 Today's the Day. Recent history quiz (s) (740)
4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook (s) (924)
***5.00* The Oprah Winfrey Show**. *A discussion on* symptoms of depression. (Ceefax) (s) (3449382)
5.40 Glynn Christian's Entertaining Microwave. A fast three-course oriental meal (r) (168295)
6.00 Quantum Leap (r). (Ceefax) (s) (256112)
6.45 Lifeswaps. A New-Age traveller swaps places with a young farmer who regards travellers as a menace (674547). **Wales:** (to 7.30) Star Trek (680059)
7.00 Waiting for God (r). (Ceefax) (s) (5634)
7.30 First Sight: A Bird's Eye View of the Homeless. John Bird, the founder of *The Big Issue* magazine, *with a fresh perspective on homeless teenagers* (653). **Wales:** The Battle for Ideas **East:** Matter of Fact; **Midlands:** Midlands Report; **South;** Southern Eye; **South-west:** Close Up; **West:** Close Up West
8.00 A Little Local Difficulty. Belfast-born Robert Wilson sends an unlikely valentine to his birthplace. (Ceefax) (s) (4382)



Clarkson drives the new Cinquecento (8.30pm)

8.30 Top Gear Jeremy Clarkson test drives Fiat's stylish new sports car. (Ceefax) (s) (2419)
9.00 The Glam Metal Detectives (Ceefax) (6585)
9.30 CHOICE Timewatch: The BBC in Vietnam. (Ceefax) (s) (961479)
10.15 Russian Wonderland. A portrait of a man who claims he is the biggest gangster in Tatarstan. (Ceefax) (315498)
10.30 Newsnight with Kirsty Wark. (Ceefax) (246092)
11.15 Late Review (s) (122108)
11.55 Weather (564450)
12.00 Open View (s) (5623528)
12.05am Summer School: Time for You. (Ceefax) (s) (4854412)
12.30 The Record. The day in Parliament (s) (27412). Ends at **1.00**

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CHOICE

Absolutely Fabulous
BBC1, 9.30pm

They are back, darling. Who, darling? Why Jennifer Saunders and Joanna Lumley, darling. Jennifer's the clever darling who writes this show. She also plays PR lady Edina, whose exhausting schedule comprises getting out of bed, getting dressed, going out to lunch and calling everyone darling. Joanna plays pal Patsy, the fashion editor with the glossy hair-do and the foul tongue. Edina is so determined to be in vogue, preferably 1960s vogue, that she goes all the way to New York for a kitchen door handle. What a gag! What a darling! Jennifer has written some darling lines, giving most of them to herself. June Whitfield, as Jennifer's mum, has fewer lines but tends to get the biggest laughs. She is a real darling.

Vietnam Stories: Timewatch
BBC2, 9.30pm

A selection of BBC footage of the Vietnam War is presented by Julian Pettifer, one of several young reporters who covered the conflict. Another was Martin Bell, seen here observing as early as 1966 that the nature of the country would make an American victory very difficult. The rest of the programme is a demonstration of how right Bell was. That much of the footage predates the arrival of colour only seems to make it more sombre. Although the British had no direct axes to grind, the coverage cannot help but echo the futility of American policy. Perhaps the biggest American mistake was to give television crews unlimited access. As Pettifer says, they are unlikely to make the same error again.

Whose News?: The Tabloid
Channel 4, 9.00pm

The *Daily News* is the biggest of the New York tabloid newspapers but in fierce competition with its two rivals. After nearly going bankrupt under the late Robert Maxwell, it was bought by a Canadian property developer, Mortimer B. Zuckerman. He, in turn, hired an Englishman, Martin Dunn, as Editor-in-Chief. With stints on *The Sun* and *The News of the World*, Dunn knows all about the tabloid game but he admits that New York is a tough assignment. The trouble is not so much too few stories but too many. The programme follows some of Dunn's star reporters as they try to dig out an exclusive. Their efforts are overtaken when a much bigger and better story materialises: the death of Jackie Kennedy.



Troubled social worker Phyllis Logan (ITV, 9.00pm)

Chiller: Here Comes the Mirror Man
ITV, 9.00pm

Stephen Gallagher's contribution to the season of psychological thrillers features Phyllis Logan as Anna, an overburdened social worker who takes on a very strange client. Gary (John Simm) is a disturbed young man who lives rough in an abandoned church and appears to be under the spell of somebody called Michael. Whatever Michael says Gary does, and it is not usually pleasant. Then along comes Anna, who tells Gary that Michael does not exist. It proves not to be the most judicious remark. Connoisseurs of such tales will probably be able to guess the outcome. But if the narrative holds few surprises it builds to a tense climax and offers a neatly ironic touch just before the final credits.

Peter Waymark

CARLTON

6.00am GMTV (7144189)
9.25 Chain Letters (s) (3572721) **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (8176092)
10.00 The Time . . . the Place Topical discussion series chaired by John Stapleton (s) (7201672)
10.35 This Morning presented by Richard Madeley and Judy Finnigan (26868943) **12.20pm London Today** (Teletext) and weather (1935276)
12.30 News (Teletext) and weather (485903)
12.55 Emmerdale (r). (Teletext) (2482450) **1.25 Home and Away** (Teletext) (57306566)
1.55 Vanessa. Vanessa Feltz asks wives if they forgive their husbands. (Teletext) (s) (35276059) **2.25 A Country Practice** (s) (74036740)
2.50 Gardeners' Diary. John Ravenscroft with seasonal advice (7554214) **3.20 ITN News** headlines (Teletext) (6383653) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (6382924)
3.30 The Riddlers (r) (2457943) **3.40 Wizadora** (r) (s) *(8351363)* ***3.50 Rupert*** *(r) (7946009)* **4.15 Animaniacs** (Teletext) (s) (6797450) **4.40 Fun House** (Teletext) (s) (9338837)
5.10 After 5 with Caron Keating (Teletext) (6569586)
5.40 News (Teletext) and weather (441030)
5.55 Your Shout. Members of the public air their views (331160)
6.00 Home and Away *(r). (Teletext) (943)*
6.30 London Tonight. (Teletext) (295)
7.00 Emmerdale. (Teletext) (2160)
7.30 3-D. Julia Somerville asks if our hair is safe in hairdressers' hands (479)

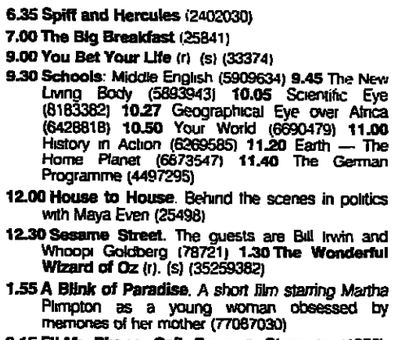


Trudie Goodwin imparts bad news (8.00pm)

8.00 The Bill. A young girl is the victim of a hit-and-run accident. (Teletext) (8108)
8.30 Animal Detectives: Turtles. Dave Currey and Allan Thornton travel to Sri Lanka and the Maldives to reveal how the turtle, supposedly a protected species, is being systematically wiped out. (Teletext) (s) (2653)
9.00 CHOICE Chiller: Here Comes the Mirror Man. (Teletext) (s) (9547)
***10.00* News at Ten** (Teletext) and weather (28585)
10.30 London Tonight (Teletext) and weather (901547)
10.40 Revelations. Drama serial about a bishop and his family. With Paul Shelley and Judy Loe (s) (718818)
11.10 Big City. Paul Ross and Carolyn Marshall with the last in the present series (s) (359160)
11.40 The Powers That Be. Comedy series starring John Forsythe as an affable American senator with a pushy family (802092)
12.15am The Little Picture Show presented by Mariella Frostrup (r) (215580)
***1.15* The Beat** *with Gary Crowley (r) (s) (211764)*
2.15 The Album Show (r) (s) (6281580)
3.10 America's Top Ten (r) (s) (58576764)
3.35 Sport AM (r) (8560832)
4.30 Videofashion (r) (26306)
5.00 Vanessa (r). (Teletext) (s) (15702)
5.30 ITN Morning News (34290). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.35 Spiff and Hercules (2402030)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (25841)
9.00 You Bet Your Life (r) (s) (33374)
9.30 Schools: Middle English (5909634) **9.45** The New Living Body (5883943) **10.05** Scientific Eye (8183382) **10.27** Geographical Eye over Africa (6428818) **10.50** Your World (6690479) **11.00** History in Action (6269585) **11.20** Earth — The Home Planet (6873547) **11.40** The German Programme (4497295)
12.00 House to House. Behind the scenes in politics with Maya Even (25498)
12.30 Sesame Street. The guests are Bill Irwin and Whoopi Goldberg (78721) **1.30 The Wonderful Wizard of Oz** (r). (s) (35259382)
1.55 A Blink of Paradise. *A short film starring Martha* Plimpton as a young woman obsessed by memories of her mother (77087030)
2.15 FILM: Phone Call From a Stranger (1952). *Comedy drama starring Gary Merrill as a survivor* who visits the families of three fellow-passengers who died in an air crash. With Shelley Winters and Bette Davis. (198160)
***4.00* Profiles of Nature**. *The work of North America's* most famous wildlife artist, Maynard Reece, who painted waterfowl (r). (108)
4.30 Countdown (s) (Teletext) (932)
5.00 Ricki Lake. How important is the age gap in a relationship? (s) (Teletext) (8404769)
5.50 Terrytoons. Classic animation (354011)
***6.00* The Cosby Show: Rudy's Retreat** (r). (Teletext) (585)
6.30 Saved By the Bell: The College Years. Lasky realises that dating Kelly could be problematic. (Teletext) (837)
7.00 Channel 4 News and Weather (Teletext) (288740)
7.50 The Slot (253498)
***8.00* Hard Men**. Following the story of Brendan Collum, who enters the Mr Strathclyde Body Building Championships (r). (s) (Teletext) (9450)
8.30 Food File. An investigation into organic meat, with *The Times* cook, Frances Bissell, how to make sushi, and a search for Britain's oldest food shop. (s) (Teletext) (8585)



Martin Dunn is spoilt for choice (9.00pm)

9.00 CHOICE Whose News?: The Tabloid (s) (Teletext (7189)
10.00 FILM: Murder in Mississippi (1990). A reconstruction of the murder of civil rights activists in the Deep South in 1964, starring Tom Hulce, Blaire Underwood and Josh Charles. Directed by Roger Young. (s) (Teletext) (397301)
11.55 Whose News?: Videos, Vigilantes and Voyeurism. *Questioning the role of the video* camera in society now that video footage is accepted as evidence in court (r) (s) (854905)
1.00 Dispatches (r) (Teletext) (7162870)
***1.45* FILM: Snowbound** *(1948, b/w). Thriller set in a* lonely hut in the Alps. Starring Robert Newton, Dennis Price and Herbert Lom. Directed by David Macdonald. Ends at **4.00** (287967)

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Anglia News (8176092) **12.20pm-12.30** Anglia News (1935276) **1.55** The Young Doctors (7707040) **2.50-3.20** High Road (7554214) **3.25-3.30** Anglia News and Weather (6382924) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (6569566) **6.25-7.00** Anglia News (329276) **10.30** Anglia News (901547) **10.40** Cover Story (718818) **11.10** Side Effects (861460) **12.05am** The Powers That Be (4858238) **12.30** Absolution (628412) **2.20** The Beat (5335948) **3.15** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (68575035) **3.40** Quiz Night (17919615) **4.05** Donahue (9527141)

CENTRAL

As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (7707040) **2.50-3.20** Take the High Road (7554214) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (6569566) **6.25-7.00** Central News and Weather (610189) **11.10** Side Effects (505382) **12.10am** Curtis Calls (4958073) **4.30** Jobfinder (5394702) **5.20** Asian Eye (7669948)

GRANADA

As London except: 12.55-1.25 Shortland Street (2482450) **1.25** Home and Away (87016769) **1.50** Vanessa (35237160) **2.20** Love at First Sight (74028721) **2.50-3.20** Emmerdale (7554214) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (6569566) **6.25** Granada Tonight (328276) **7.00-7.30** Emmerdale (2160) **10.40** Revelations (718818) **11.40** The Powers That Be (802092) **12.15am** The Little Picture Show (215580) **1.15** The Beat (211764) **2.15** The Album Show (6281580) **3.10** America's Top Ten (68576764) **3.35** Sport AM (8560832) **4.30** Jobfinder (26306) **5.00** Vanessa (15702)

HTV WEST

As London except: 2.25 Gardening Time (74027092) **2.55-3.20** Shortland Street (7480095) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (6569566) **6.30-7.00** HTV News (295) **10.40** The Country Set (718818) **11.10** The West This Week (359160) **11.40** Good Health! (802092) **4.30am** Jobfinder (26306)

HTV WALES

As HTV WEST except: 6.30-7.00 Wales Tonight (295) **7.30-8.00** Wales This Week (479) **10.30** HTV Wales News (901547) **10.40** The Infirmary (718818) **11.10** Grass Roots (359160) **11.40** 3-D (802092)

MERIDIAN

As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Meridian News and Weather (8176092) **12.20pm-12.30** Meridian News and Weather (1935276) **1.55** A Country Practice (7707040) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (7554214) **3.25-3.30** Meridian News and Weather (6382924) **5.10** Home and Away (6569566) **5.37-5.40** Three Minutes - Commissioners (351924) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (943) **6.30-7.00** Grass Roots (295) **10.30** Meridian News and Weather (901547) **10.40** Burglar (53550030) **12.30am** Absolution (628412) **2.20** The Beat (5335948) **3.15** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (68575035) **3.40** Quiz Night (17919615) **4.05** Donahue (9527141) **5.00** Freescreen (15702)

WESTCOUNTRY

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Westcountry News (8176092) **12.20pm** Westcountry News (1944924) **12.25-12.30** My Story (1943295) **2.25** Wish You Were Here. ? (74027092) **3.25-3.30** Westcountry News. Weather (6382924) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (6569566) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (51301) **10.30** Westcountry News. Weather (901547) **10.40** Married with Children (718818) **11.10** Prisoner Cell Block H (861160) **4.30am** Jobfinder (26306)

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Calendar News and Weather (8176092) **12.20pm-12.30** Calendar (1935276) **1.55** A Country Practice (7707040) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (7554214) **3.25-3.30** Yorkshire. Calendar News / Bibdale. Network North (6382924) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (6569566) **5.55** Calendar / Network North (6569566) **6.30-7.00** Crossways (295) **10.30** Calendar News and Weather (901547) **10.40** Edit V (2822030) **11.25** Prisoner Cell Block H (8696605) **12.20am** Badge of the Assassin (9989509) **2.05** America's Top Ten (7921848) **2.35** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (7876344) **3.05** No Place for Jennifer (7345677) **4.30** Jobfinder (557764)

S4C

Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (25841) **9.00** You Bet Your Life (333741) **9.30** Ysgolion/schools (758540) **12.00pm** House To House (25498) **12.30** Sioe Meithrin Ty Chwith / (41924) **1.00** Take Five (731600) **1.30** Journeyman (40295) **2.00** Keepers Of Time (30030) **2.30** Rasu Lake Ricki Reunites Families Separated At (2277905) **4.20** Terrytoons (4760127) **4.30** The Cosby Show The Getaway (932) **5.00** 5 Pump Court Ulcdrith March Y Lloer (7586) **5.30** Countdown (872) **6.00** Newyddion 6/ News (9355222) **6.15** Hano (357455) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (3030) **7.30** Maigaret (28740) **8.30** Newyddion/News (8585) **9.00** O Flaen Dy Lygaid Monika a Jonas (7199) **10.00** Rising Damp 88 (26127) **10.30** Wish You Were Here (44612566) **12.10am** Secret Lives: Mountbatten (2475290) **1.10** Dawedd/close (17373528)

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

6.00am DJ Kat (44479) **8.00** Power Rangers (59479) **8.30** Blockbusters (41450) **9.00** Oprah Winfrey (99769) **10.00** Concentration (21045) **10.30** Card Sharks (61214) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (22450) **12.00** The Urban Peasant (52566) **12.30pm** Anything But Love (78092) **1.00** St Elsewhere (73547) **2.00** Trade Winds (71504) **3.00** Oprah Winfrey (8668943) **3.50** DJ Kat (4506011) **3.55** Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (9163301) **4.30** Power Rangers (7740) **5.00** Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (4491) **6.00** Murphy Brown (5905) **6.30** Family Ties (9585) **7.00** Rescue (1450) **7.30** M*A*S*H (5769) **8.00** Manhunter (10092) **9.00** Under Suspicion (30855) **10.00** Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (33943) **11.00** David Letterman (401082) **11.50** Litlejohn (100011) **12.40am** Chances (3864832) **1.30** *WWRP in Cincinnati* (99865) **2.00-6.00** Hit Mix Long Play (5461388)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour
6.00am Sunrise (1919547) **9.30** Sky News Extra (56672) **10.30** ABC Nightline (69856) **11.00** News and Business (20092) **1.30pm** CBS News (78473) **2.30** Parliament Live (558943) **5.00** Live at Five (8855837) **6.05** Richard Littlejohn (2283672) **7.30** O J. Simpson Trial (7118450) **12.30am** CBS News (21412) **1.30** Fashion TV (60122) **2.30** Parliament Replay (89453) **4.30** CBS News (11344) **5.30-6.00** ABC News (90870)

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Showcase (1889547) **10.00 Samurai Cowboy** (1993) (89108) **12.00 Rhinestone** (1984) (10127) **2.00pm The Sea Wolves** (1980) (24295) **4.00 Dusty** (1982) (55774634) **5.45 Samurai Cowboy** (1993) As 10am (39497276) **7.30 El Nawy Week In Review** (80277) **8.00 Indian Summer** (1993) (73000943) **9.40 When a Stranger Calls Back** (1993) (943479) **11.15 Mistress** (1992) (899479) **1.05am T.C. 2000** (1993) (135275) **2.40 Cotton Comes to Harlem** (1970) (803324) **4.15-6.00 Dusty** (1982) As 4pm (106832)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

6.00pm Life with Father (1947) (34081) **8.00 Dracula Has Risen from the Grave** (1968) (14856) **10.00-12.00 Lust for a Vampire** (1970) (74740)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

8.00am The Solid Gold Cadillac (1956) (37189) **8.00 Barnum** *(1984) (95818)* **10.00 Abbott and Costello in the Foreign Legion** (1950) (70450) **12.00 Honey, I Blew**

and the King of Hearts (1993) (22837) **4.00 Barnum** (1984): As 8am (3285) **6.00 Vincent and Me** (1990) (35301) **8.00 Honey, I Blew Up the Kid** (1992). As noon (14818) **10.00 Full Metal Jacket** (1987) (65130) **12.00 Confessions of a Window Cleaner** (1974) (902851) **1.35am Sunstroke** (1992) (755306) **3.10-5.00 The Linguini Incident** (1992) (89685509)

● **For more film information, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday**

SKY SPORTS

7.00am Soccer News (4228983) **7.15 WWF** *Challenge (307011)* ***8.15*** *Soccer News* (2241092) **8.30** High Five (76721) **9.00** Freestyle Skiing (90301) **9.30** Aerobics Oz Style (25585) **10.00** The Rugby Club (88030) **11.00** Get Your Handicap Down (49030) **11.30** *Fish Tales (4559547)* **11.45** Sky Sports Classics (4570030) **12.00** Aerobics Oz Style (87837) **12.30pm** Ford Escort International Football (10788) **2.30** Cycling (8834) **3.00** The Rugby Club (28547) **4.00** American Sports Cavalcade (30382) **5.00** WWF Action Zone (1479) **6.00** Ladbrokes Soccer News (146189) **6.15** Fish Tales (167672) **6.30** World of Rugby Union (3943) **7.00** Transworld Sport (70498) **8.00** Andy Gray's Bootroom (56818) **9.00** NBA Basketball (59805) **11.00** Ladbrokes Soccer News (705585) **11.15** World of Rugby Union (447522) **11.45** Fish Tales (4082295) **12.00** Transworld Sport (775801) **1.00-2.00am** Andy Gray's Bootroom (41801)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Equestrianism (48672) **8.30** Artistic Gymnastics (61059) **10.00** Dancing (80498) **11.00** Football (22160) **1.00pm** Motorcycling (64450) **1.30** Formula One (13740) **2.00** Tennis (6160) **2.30** Olympic Magazine (6030) **3.00** Funboard (48943) **4.00** Eurolun (7382) **4.30** Snowmobile (48362) **5.30** Car Racing (20450) **6.30** Eurosport News (8011) **7.00** Combat Sports (85588) **8.00** Wrestling (74214) **9.00** Football (77301) **11.00** Golf (81127) **12.00-12.30am News** (31141)

SKY SOAP

8.00am Loving (4751189) **8.30** Peyton Place (4753160) **9.00** As the World Turns (4976818) **10.00** Guiding Light (9283905) **11.00-12.00** Another World (9283769)

SKY TRAVEL

12.00 Globetrotter (4784276) **12.30pm** Zoo Life (1980030) **1.00** Travel Guides (9287585) **1.30** Cook Italian (1989301) **2.00** California Gold (7543924) **2.30** Crete and Greek Islands (4316030) **3.00** The Greatest Classic



Julie Christie as an ambitious model: *Darling* (Bravo, 9.30pm)

(4307382) **4.30** Zoo Life (4303586) **5.00** Travel Guides (7534276) **5.30** Cook Italian (4294918) **6.00** Globetrotter (4324058) **6.30** Las Vegas (4306011) **7.00** American Vacation (5286498) **8.00** Around the World (7795768) **8.30** Travel Guide (7542295) **9.00** Globetrotter (4205214) **9.30** Las Vegas (1977585) **10.00** American Vacation (5285769) ***11.00 Europe (4217059)*** ***11.30-12.00*** California Gold (4832586)

TLC

9.00am Successful Sugarcraft (2544092) **9.30** Good Cooking (5762108) **10.00** Jimmy's (2583568) **10.30** Only Human (1851769) **11.30** Language Says It All (9331061) **12.00** Private Lives (2564856) **12.30pm** Park High (5768924) **1.00** Good Cooking (8144030) **1.30** Successful Sugarcraft (5765295) **2.00** Jocasta Innes (2584295) **3.00** Secret Gardens (2825092) **3.30-4.00** Furniture to Go (1604108)

UK GOLD

7.00am Give Us a Clue (8121189) **7.30** Daughters (2563127) **8.30** EastEnders (2562498) **9.00** The Bill (2546450) **9.30** Coldiz (5665634) **10.30** Angels (1853127) **11.30** Going for Gold (4612009) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (2568214) **12.30pm** Neighbours (5768382) **1.00** EastEnders (8113160) **1.30** The Bill (5767653) **2.00** Father, Dear Father (2648943) **2.30** I Didn't Know You Cared (1694721) **3.00** Knots Landing (1316395) **4.00** Dallas (1557130) **5.00** Going for Gold (98386634) **5.25** XYZ (98305769) **5.30** Hi-De-Hi (4422943) **6.30** EastEnders (8513301) **7.25** Dick Emery (8086082) **8.00** I Didn't Know You Cared (2635479) **8.30** Some Mothers (2647214) **9.00** Minder (9344672) ***10.00*** *The Bill (2587943)* ***10.30*** *Top of the* Pops (82355471) **11.05** Carrott Confidential (5259843) **11.45** Dr Who (3204096) **12.15am** FILM: Hamlet (1990): With Mel Gibson and Glenn Close (86571257) **2.30** *Shopping at Night (6290306)*

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL

6.00am Sesame Street (6808363) **6.55** Garfield (7175837) **7.25** Eek (6163498) **7.55** Degrassi Junior High (78950) **8.25** Super Mario Brothers (4015924) **8.45** Casper (1221127) **9.00** Sesame Street (62853) **10.00** Droibse Time (49189) **12.00** Garfield (14905) **12.30pm** Eek (53769) **1.00** Beverly Hills Teens (18045) **1.30** Super Mario Brothers (83102553) **1.45** Baby Follies (93107106) **2.00** Benny (3096) **2.30** Babar (7914) **3.00** Casper (1344872) **3.15** Bill and Ted (227276) **3.45** Sonic (226547) **4.15** Head to Head (1940296) **4.30-5.00** Californa Dreams (7158)

NICKELODEON

7.00am Nickalive! (4226005) **7.15** Rude Dog and the Dweebs (345011) **7.45** Rugrats (344382) **8.15** Nicksons (446214) **8.45** Nickalive! (9951672) **9.00** Nick Jr (132672) **12.00** Carman San Diego (95479) **12.30pm** Muppet Show (27843) **1.00** Smoggles *(777924)* ***1.30*** *Galaxy High (26214)* ***2.00*** Chipmunks (9634) **2.30** Henry's Cat (6276) **3.00** Grimmy (8769) **3.30** Carmen San Diego (1721) **4.00** Rude Dog (5176) **4.30** Rugrats (9740) **5.00** Clarissa (3214) **5.30** Nickalive! *(5932)* ***6.00*** *Doug (7905)* ***6.30-7.00*** *Secret of* the Stones (1585)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Encounters with Whales (3367112) **5.00** Around Whicker's World — The Ultimate Package (91785295) **6.05** Beyond 2000 (4027108) **7.00** From Monkeys to Apes (2640301) **7.30** Nature Watch (1613856) **8.00** Dinosaurs, Dead or Alive? (2626721) **8.30** Dinosaurs, Dead or Alive? (2645856) **9.00** Special Forces (79671176) **9.30** Anthony



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North produce spirited display

Ireland held to draw as Quinn makes a point

Republic of Ireland..... 1
Northern Ireland..... 1

FROM PETER BALL IN DUBLIN

NORTHERN Ireland salvaged lost pride at Lansdowne Road yesterday. After going a goal behind from one of the 56 free kicks that littered the game, they came back with spirit to earn a draw in their European championship qualifying match.

The point, the first Ireland have dropped, ensures that Portugal maintain a lead at the top of group six — but with Ireland well placed in second spot. It will almost certainly not be enough to give Northern Ireland realistic ambitions of reaching the finals, but a determined performance at least erased the memories of their humiliation by the Republic in Belfast in November.

"We had to be very resolute, but the players were outstanding," Bryan Hamilton, the Northern Ireland manager, said. "It is important to get results like this."

Inevitably, Jack Charlton, saw it differently. "It was a frustrating game, an awful game in many ways," the Ireland manager said. "But Northern Ireland fought hard, and they deserved everything they got."

Northern Ireland's intentions were abundantly clear from the start. Without McDonald to help contain him, Niall Quinn had been a prime influence in their destruction in Belfast. Now Quinn had Hill in front of him and McDonald behind, to leave him buffeted from both sides. Morrow and Magilton harried persistently in midfield and Dowie was a lone, but very effective, raider at the front for the men from the north. The result was a battle in blustery wind on a hard and bumpy pitch.

The first half in particular was a litany of free kicks — from the moment Hill and McDonald converged on Quinn the first time the ball went into the air.

McDonald was booked after only three minutes, justifiably, for pulling down Quinn from behind. But many of the other free kicks were pedantic in the extreme as almost any challenge was blown up by the over-enthusiastic referee, Mario van der Ende. He ensured that Northern Ireland could not kick their opponents into submission, but in so doing, the constant interruptions ensured that the game was as staccato as any American football match, and Ireland were never able to develop sustained attacks.

By the interval, there had not been a shot worthy of the name and Northern Ireland could be content, the efforts of McDonald, Taggart, Hill, and Patterson providing Fettis solid protection, while the goalkeeper's handling gave little encouragement to the Republic to persist with the high crosses that had been their main approach in the first period.

Northern Ireland's contentment, however, survived only three minutes into the second period before they found themselves behind. The goal, inevitably, came from a free kick, the third in three minutes. Staunton was obstructed by Patterson, Irwin curled the kick in, and Quinn came in to hit a side-foot volley home from close range.

"We gave away a silly free kick and when the service came in we defended badly," Hamilton said. That left the apparent game-plan in disarray and it looked as if Ireland would capitalise on their position to go on and win.

As Ireland piled forward, an Irwin free kick was deflected a foot wide, then from the full back's diagonal ball, Quinn came in to force Fettis to save low at the post.

But from that unpromising position, Northern Ireland found further depths of resolve and began to match it with some more purposeful attacks of their own. Gillespie, whose sole aim in the first half had been to tackle back, now began to reveal the touches that made him such an important part of the transfer which took Cole to Manchester United.

And as the north pressed, so came the equaliser. McGrath and Babb dwelt on the ball, allowing Gillespie to nip in. The winger beat Babb to the byline, and hit over a perfect cross for Dowie to head past Kelly. "I thought we had it won — I never dreamt we were going to drop a point," Charlton said.

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND (4-4-2): A Kelly (Sheffield United) — G Kelly (Leeds United), P McGrath (Aston Villa), P Babb (Liverpool), D Irwin (Manchester United) — R Keane (Manchester United), J Sheridan (Sheffield Wednesday), A Townsend (Aston Villa), S Staunton (Aston Villa) — N Quinn (Manchester City; sub A Cascarino, Marseilles, 82min), D Kelly (Wolverhampton Wanderers, sub J McAteer, Bolton Wanderers, 75)
NORTHERN IRELAND (4-1-4-1): A Fettis (Hull City) — D Patterson (Crystal Palace), A McDonald (QPR), G Taggart (Barnsley), N Worthington (Leeds United) — C Hill (Leicester City) — K Gillespie (Newcastle United), J Magilton (Southampton), S Morrow (Arsenal), M Hughes (West Ham United) — I Dowie (Southampton).
Referee: M van der Ende (Holland)

GROUP SIX

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Portugal	4	4	0	0	14	2	12
Ireland	4	3	1	0	12	1	10
N Ireland	5	2	1	2	8	9	7
Austria	4	2	0	2	10	3	6
Latvia	4	1	0	3	2	11	3
Liechtenstein	5	0	0	5	1	21	0
Portugal	4	4	0	0	14	2	12

RESULTS: N Ireland 4 Liechtenstein 1, Liechtenstein 0 Austria 4, Latvia 0 Ireland 3, N Ireland 1 Portugal 2, Latvia 1 Portugal 3, Austria 1 N Ireland 2, Ireland 4 Liechtenstein 0, Portugal 1 Austria 0, Liechtenstein 0 Latvia 1, N Ireland 0 Ireland 4, Portugal 8 Liechtenstein 0, Ireland 1, N Ireland 1, Austria 5 Latvia 0

FIXTURES: Apr 26: Ireland v Portugal, Latvia v N Ireland, Austria v Liechtenstein. Jun 3: Portugal v Latvia, Liechtenstein v Ireland. Jun 7: N Ireland v Latvia. Jun 11: Ireland v Austria. Aug 15: Liechtenstein v Portugal. Aug 16: Latvia v Austria. Sep 3: Portugal v N Ireland. Sep 6: Austria v Ireland, Latvia v Liechtenstein. Oct 11: Ireland v Latvia, Austria v Portugal, Liechtenstein v N Ireland. Nov 15: Portugal v Ireland, N Ireland v Austria.



Reid, the new Sunderland manager, takes charge of the first division club at Roker Park yesterday. Photograph: Raoul Dixon

Reid given task of rescuing Sunderland

BY LOUISE TAYLOR

PETER REID was yesterday offered an opportunity to revive his managerial career when he was given the job of rescuing Sunderland from relegation.

The former Manchester City manager took charge of the struggling Endsleigh Insurance League first division club five hours after Graham Wood, a Sunderland director, had paid a breakfast visit to the home of Mick Buxton, Reid's predecessor. During what Wood described as an "amicable chat" Buxton was informed his contract, due to expire in May, had been prematurely terminated.

With Sunderland twentieth in the league and having lost six of their last seven games, Buxton knew time was running out. Despite initially impressing after succeeding the hapless Terry Butcher in November 1993, Buxton, 51, has struggled to motivate the team this season.

Reid, who was sacked by Manchester City in 1993, has effectively been taken on trial by Sunderland for seven games, until the end of the season. The club has pledged to renew his contract if he keeps it in the first division.

"I have had offers from other clubs but, without being big-headed, I was waiting until one of Sunderland's stature came in," Reid said. "I have seen Sunderland play this season and it is obvious what the problems are. But I am sure that with the help of this club's tremendous supporters we can stay up. Those supporters can really make a difference to the team."

It was fighting talk, but Reid, who has played twice for Bury this season, has inherited a host of problems. Sunderland is up for sale — the club's majority shareholder, Bob Murray, is keen to offload his stake — tentative plans to relocate to a new stadium remain shrouded in uncertainty and the under-funded team toils in Newcastle's shadow. Significantly, like Kevin Keegan at Newcastle and Bryan Robson at Middlesbrough, Reid is a former England international, with 13 caps to his name.

Should he stay on next season, he may well appoint the Newcastle midfield player, Paul Bracewell, a close friend from their days as Everton team-mates, as a coach. Bracewell, a former Sunderland captain, is coming to the end of his playing career.

Reid, 38, provided both style and steel in a playing career with Bolton Wanderers, Everton and Queens Park Rangers. He succeeded Howard Kendall as Manchester City manager in 1990 and his tenure at Maine Road ended after disagreements with the club's then chairman, Peter Swales.

With Sunderland's matches being played against a backdrop of increasing supporter unrest, his appointment can be seen as a placatory, if desperate, gesture.

McCall gives up managing role

STEVE McCALL, 34, resigned as the player-manager of Plymouth Argyle yesterday, deepening the problems of a team already threatened with relegation from the Endsleigh Insurance League second division.

McCall, who took his decision after a meeting with the chairman, Don McCauley, yesterday, was appointed in January just before Plymouth's unsuccessful FA Cup trip to Nottingham Forest. He succeeded Peter Shilton.

Dave Smith, the former Plymouth manager, is being tipped to take charge again at Home Park in a caretaker capacity. McCall will remain but only as a player.

Steve Sedgley has been banned from training with the Ipswich first team after refusing to appear as substitute. Sedgley, valued at £500,000, has been training with the reserves. The manager, George Burley, told him the news after dropping the midfield player for the local derby against Norwich last week, which Ipswich lost 3-0. Sedgley said: "He has basically told me I can go."

Cool reception to baseball moves

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

UNION leaders of striking US Major League baseball players have reacted coolly to team owners' new proposals for ending the seven-month-old dispute.

Donald Fehr, head of the Players Association, met Bud Selig, the acting commissioner, for 90 minutes last night but said later: "The proposal we received represents some movement by the clubs, but I think it would be incorrect to say that it's substantial."

The new season is scheduled to open on Sunday night when the Florida Marlins entertain the New York Mets.

The latest proposal calls for a £29.3 million salary cap with a 50 per cent tax penalty. Fehr said the two parties had come close on the threshold issue but described the tax penalty as "astronomical".

"This proposal is much less than the clubs hoped to achieve, and I'm sure it will not thrill you, either," Selig said in a letter on Tuesday to all major league players. "But both the clubs and the players are at the point in this dispute where they must swallow hard and make an agreement. Otherwise, we will continue to do damage to this industry, which untimately will cost the clubs and players far more than the amount at stake in this negotiating."

A federal judge will rule on a National Labour Relations Board petition for an injunction to end the strike tomorrow. An injunction would allow the players to play under the terms of the expired collective bargaining agreement. It would restore salary arbitration, free-agent bidding and anti-collusion rules.

Should the judge allow the injunction, Fehr said he would call an end to the strike. The owners, however, have said that they would respond to that scenario with a lock-out of the players.

☐ The Los Angeles Dodgers yesterday brought Ed Vargo, the National League supervisor of umpires, to have look at the unorthodox pitching action of the Japanese pitcher, Hideo Nomo.

"It's no big deal, just needs some fine-tuning," Vargo said after watching Nomo work out. Like many Japanese and Korean pitchers, Nomo alters his delivery on nearly every pitch, which is not legal in North America. Asked about it later, Nomo, through an interpreter, said, "No problem — I can adjust."

Tyson to loosen links with King

Srikumar Sen discovers the former world champion is determined to make changes

Mike Tyson is about to dismiss Don King as his adviser, according to reports from the United States. The former world heavyweight champion has called a press conference in Cleveland today when, it is believed, he will announce a management and training team of his own choice and that King will no longer be making decisions for him or handling his affairs.

Cynthia Case, a spokesperson for the Gund Arena, Cleveland, said that Tyson would simply read a statement and leave without answering any questions. King, who has so far made all the arrangements following Tyson's release from prison on Saturday, will not be at the conference.

The promoter had no idea yesterday about Tyson's news conference or what the boxer was going to say. King, who is in Florida, said: "If Mike Tyson is having a press conference, I have not been

The promoter's press officer, Mike Marley, said from Los Angeles: "I don't know what it is all about but I gather Mike's going to do his own thing and going to tell us who his managers and trainers are going to be."

According to close friends of Tyson, the boxer is reported to have said that when he went to prison he had £30 million and now has only £1 million. "Don made more than £100 million off me and I've got nothing."

However, Tyson's former manager, Bill Cayton, did not believe that Tyson would sever all connections with King. "I'm told he will simply announce that he is own man, working for himself and not King," Cayton said. "King will not be making decisions for him any more, but King could still promote his fights.

to change his life, he wants people to know he is no longer under Don King. King will not figure in his day-to-day business. Tyson being under severe constraints regarding his behaviour and movements (He cannot mix with known felons, own a firearm or be in possession of drugs and must submit to urine tests when required and police searches) wanted a quiet home-coming. As a Muslim, he was upset that King had laid on a party and the caterers had provided pork, shellfish and drink.

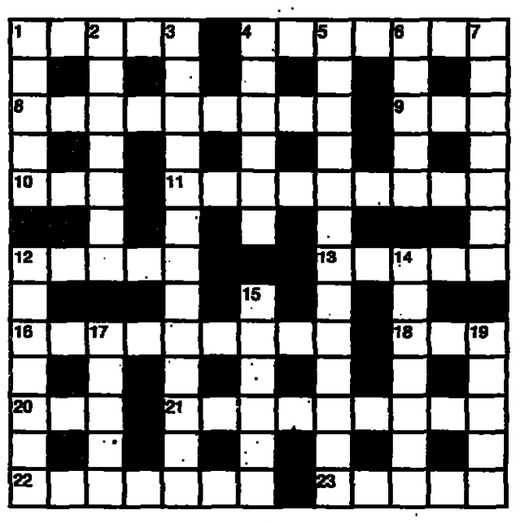
"Tyson blew up and asked King to leave," Cayton said. "I believe the Muslims will be good for Tyson. He prayed at the mosque with Muhammad Ali. It would be wonderful if Ali could be his role model."

If Tyson does break his links with King, it will be a relief to the promoter's competitors. King, with two championships, the World Boxing Council and World Boxing Association, under his control (Oliver McCall, the WBC champion, and Tony Tucker and Bruce Seldon, who will be boxing for the WBA title on April 8, all under contract to him) could keep top men such as Lennox Lewis and Riddick Bowe out of the championship for years if Tyson were exclusively in his hands.



Tyson: meet

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 433

ACROSS
1 Horrify (5)
4 Coarse (eg bookbinding) cloth (7)
8 Preserve: cat colour (9)
9 Saucerless cup (3)
10 Delved (3)
11 Code of manners (9)
12 Clumsy (5)
13 Wireless (5)
16 Hired (aircraft): sort of accountant (9)
18 Stuffy, smoky atmosphere (3)
20 Install listening devices (3)
21 Demean shamefully (9)
22 (Sportsman's) pullover (7)
23 Enter; stock up (with) (3,2)

DOWN
1 Intended; pointed (5)
2 Dug-out canoe (7)
3 Take matters no further (5,2,2,4)
4 Nut: where there's an *awful lot of coffee* (6)
5 Motor-race winning signal (9,4)
6 Scope of authority; send (5)
7 High-voltage generator (7)
12 Oppressive spirit, nightmare (7)
14 Disobedient (7)
15 Elementary book; coat of paint (6)
17 Develop line of reasoning (5)
19 Inexperienced; envious (5)

SOLUTION TO NO 432

ACROSS: 1 Appeal 4 Affray 8 Tick 9 Reformer 10 Call a halt 13 Friar 15 Sauna 16 Curio 18 Clearance 21 Upheaval 22 Ward 23 Hamper 24 Sudden

DOWN: 1 Attach 2 Peculiar 3 Lurch 5 Frost fair 6 Rome 7 Yorker 11 Associate 12 Acute 14 Iron hand 16 Crouch 17 Lead on 19 Atlas 20 Sham

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